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Peled resigns as police inspector-general

BILL HUTMAN

POLICE Inspector-General Rafi Peled resigned over the weekend, "for the good of the country," he said, after the High Court of Justice on Thursday reopened the investigation into his receiving hotel discounts.

Peled, who was emotional as he read a statement to reporters at his Jerusalem office last evening, said he was quitting because the country needs an inspector-general who can focus solely on the nation's security.

"I have no doubt the investigation by the attorney-general into the factual questions raised by the High Court ... will in the end clear me beyond a shadow of a doubt," Peled said. "It was not easy for me to make this decision. But because the Israel Police is dear to me, and Israel's security is important to me, I decided that I had to do this now."

"Even though the court's decision was good for me, it is clear to me the meaning of a long, drawn-out investigation, taking testimony, and disciplinary steps, and the expected tendentious media coverage," Peled added.

'Investigation by attorney-general will clear me beyond a shadow of a doubt'

The Yediot Aharonot newspaper last year revealed that Peled received discounts at the Moriah Hotel chain, posed for a promotional photo in a hotel jacuzzi, and was given free use of a Lake Kinneret beach from a man with a criminal record - all matters the High Court found may warrant disciplinary action.

Peled, who took office just over one year ago, informed Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Police Minister Moshe Shahal on Friday of his plans to resign, and submitted a letter of resignation to Shahal.

The move took most of the nation by surprise, since the High Court decision on Thursday allowed Peled to stay in office. Senior police officials were also shocked, only hearing of the resignation through the media last night.

According to sources close to Peled, the inspector-general sat alone in his office until past

midnight Thursday considering the implications of the High Court decision.

Several friends who are legal experts cautioned Peled the court decision would likely lead to the opening of a disciplinary hearing. Peled's resignation in such an instance would be less honorable than if done now, they said.

"I'm not admitting my guilt [by resigning]," Peled said. "This is a courageous decision I am making."

Shahal said he accepted Peled's resignation "with sorrow. I have had, and continue to have, total confidence and strong professional and personal respect for the inspector-general."

Both Shahal and Rabin had wanted Peled to stay on the job, even after the High Court decision, to avoid a changeover at the helm of the police force during the present wave of Arab terror, Police Ministry sources said.

"I hope that a place will be found for [Peled] to continue to contribute from his great talent and experience," Shahal said.

Peled, 50, joined the police force in 1975, after serving for several years in the General Security Service. He was head of Police Intelligence and commander of the southern district, and had been named Jerusalem police chief only weeks before his appointment as inspector-general last April.

First and foremost, Peled's decision must be seen as a courageous one, sending a strong moral message, to police officers and public servants, said Ya'acov Turner, who preceded Peled as inspector-general.

That the inspector-general is being changed for the second time in just over a year "will of course hurt the police force," Turner said.

(Continued on Page 2)



Police Inspector-General Rafi Peled... "a courageous decision." (Reuters)

Rabin fails again to dissuade Ramon on Histadrut

SARAH HONIG

PRIME Minister Yitzhak Rabin yesterday failed again to dissuade former health minister Haim Ramon from running for Histadrut secretary-general next month against Secretary-General Haim Haberfeld.

Later in the evening Likud MK Meir Sheerit informed Ramon that he would not join his list.

Ramon is expected to publicly announce today or tomorrow that he plans to run.

Labor meanwhile, is upset by news that its coalition partner, Aretz, is seriously considering inking up with Ramon in some form.

Rabin's meeting with Ramon yesterday was the second in less than a week, after the premier had voided speaking to Ramon for several weeks. Rabin repeated that he is willing to take Ramon back into the government, sources said, but Ramon stressed that Rabin would also have to implement a compromise formula on the health reform bill, the sort of compromise which thus far Haberfeld has refused to consider.

A further difficulty is that the one portfolio Ramon has indicated he wants is the as yet non-existent information portfolio, which would encroach somewhat into the ministerial territory of Foreign Minister Shimon Peres.

The possibility such a portfolio might be established has already antagonized Peres, and Rabin is seen as unlikely to wish to take on either the mighty Histadrut machine or Peres, who is also powerfully allied to the Histadrut establishment.

A source close to Rabin described the premier as finding himself "between a rock and a hard place. He does not want to see Ramon leaving Labor nor endangering the party's hegemony in the Histadrut. At the same time, he cannot possibly meet Ramon's conditions, in view of the powerful forces so solidly opposed to them."

Sheerit's reluctance was seen as all but inevitable, given that Ramon had rejected Sheerit's condition that the two not limit their association to the Histadrut, but that they also form a new centrist Knesset faction, which would negotiate entry into the coalition and put forth Sheerit as a candidate for a portfolio.

Without this, the risk of being booted out of the Likud, which is running its own list for the Histadrut, was simply not worthwhile for Sheerit. He had belatedly sought the Likud's nomination for secretary-general and publicized his own threats to run independently at the head of his own ticket, with Labor MK Amir Peretz as his possible No. 2. But Sheerit never acted on his threats and Peretz is now going to run with Ramon.

Ramon is not seen as being able to win more votes than Haberfeld. But there is the possibility that his list could team up with the Likud and Meretz to leave Labor in the opposition for the first time in the labor federation's history.

Over to defer to Ramon, Page 2



The body of an 18-year-old Hamas terrorist is removed after he was shot dead while trying to attack soldiers at the Erez checkpoint with an ax yesterday. Story, Page 2.

PLO aide: Peace deal is dying

Immediate talks on final status demanded

DAVID MAKOVSKY and news agencies

THE peace deal with Israel is "dying," PLO executive committee member Yasser Abed-Rabbo said yesterday, demanding immediate talks on the final status of the territories.

With virtually no progress made during talks Cairo last week, senior Foreign Ministry officials admitted that a meeting between Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and PLO chairman Yasser Arafat, or perhaps top PLO aide Mahmoud Abbas (Abu Mazen) will be needed to solve the stickiest issues.

As Cairo talks resume today, therefore, the sides must resolve all secondary issues first. "We have addressed about 70 percent of the draft text of Gaza/Jericho, but we have to come as close to 100% as possible," a participant in the negotiations said. He noted that there

is not one area of the agreement that is completely finished as yet. Israel hopes Arafat has issued new instructions over the weekend to the Palestinian team during his visit to Cairo in order to energize the talks, this official said. Without Arafat's personal involvement, negotiations will not move ahead, he said.

In response to Abed-Rabbo's comments, Environment Minister Yossi Sarid said: "As opposed to Abed-Rabbo, I believe that the peace process with the Palestinians is alive and well and will find itself by the end of the month. We need to hope that by that time the Gaza/Jericho Accord will be implemented

on the ground. This will be a test, and if all goes well there is no reason why we should not consider shortening the schedule set in the Oslo accords."

Peres rejected a reported call by Abed-Rabbo to start negotiating a permanent settlement since talks on an interim stage have stalled. "I don't accept his opinion."

There is an agreement and it should be implemented and we will implement it," said Peres.

"Whoever tries today to reach a permanent peace will achieve a permanent conflict by raising issues that have no solution," he added.

Meanwhile, Palestinian leaders

in the territories accused Israel yesterday of "trying to reorganize its occupation" of the Gaza Strip and Jericho rather than withdraw from the two areas.

They said the September self-rule accord between the PLO and Israel had raised the aspirations of Palestinians for independence. But Israeli demands to retain responsibility for overall security had dashed their hopes.

"Israeli measures on the ground as well as proposals in security negotiations are a clear demonstration that Israel is trying to reorganize its occupation instead of terminating it," PLO negotiator Saeb Erekat told Reuters.

"After all these rounds of negotiations, it has become obvious Israel does not intend to withdraw even from Gaza and Jericho," said another PLO official.

Cabinet to consider extended closure of areas today

Jerusalem Post Staff

THE cabinet will discuss an extended closure of the territories - perhaps an indefinite one - at its weekly meeting today.

The inner cabinet decided Friday to keep the restrictions in force until at least next Friday, after Independence Day.

Environment Minister Yossi Sarid said yesterday he was in favor of a closure of the territories, but not an absolute one. "The cabinet must discuss the length and limitations of the closure, including special cases," he said, adding that there was no point for the cabinet to tie its hands and only afterwards, based on need, being required to untie them one knot at a time. Today's reality makes the closure necessary, but in proportion, Sarid said.

Police are clearing Israel of Palestinian workers from the territories, sealed off following two deadly Arab terrorist attacks. Police Minister Moshe Shahal said on Friday.

"The difference this time is that the Israel Police has been carrying out an operation over the past few days, in what is called clearing the area of residents of the territories who stay in Israel without permits," he said.

In a separate radio interview

Shahal said the operation had been expanded since Thursday night to include Palestinian workers with permits to remain overnight in Israel.

The closure has already hurt Palestinian medical services in Jerusalem, said the Palestine Council of Health, slated to run health affairs for Palestinians once the autonomy called for in the Israel-PLO peace agreement takes effect.

Hossam Sharkawi, a council planner, said that 20 doctors were barred from reaching the Augusta Victoria Hospital on the Mount of Olives yesterday morning. He said some doctors from nearby Makassed Hospital made it past roadblocks in the afternoon after a five-hour wait.

In Gaza, health council spokesman Dr. Riyadh Zanoun said 16 Palestinians suffering from cancer and other illnesses were turned back at roadblocks since Friday. This prevented them from reaching hospitals in Israel for chemotherapy and other treatment unavailable in Gaza, Dr. Zanoun said.

The army maintained that ambulances and medical staff were permitted past roadblocks into Israel despite the closure, and was checking the other reports.

Namir agrees to add 18,200 foreign workers

SASHA SADAN

THE cabinet will be asked today to approve another 18,200 foreign workers for the building and agriculture branches, following the closure order imposed on the territories at the end of last week.

Minister of Labor and Social Affairs Ora Namir presented the proposal at Friday's inner cabinet meeting. She has suggested bringing in some 15,000 workers for construction jobs and 3,200 foreign hands for agriculture.

Namir also wants an extension to the end of 1994 of subsidies being supplied to unemployed who take agricultural jobs.

If the additional 18,200 workers are approved, their arrival would swell the ranks of foreign workers in construction to 26,000 workers and 11,000 in agriculture.

Those working in construction come mostly from Romania and Bulgaria, while Thailand has been the source for farming hands.

"There is no doubt that we shall have to increase considerably the number of foreign workers in order to ensure the Israeli economy despite security problems," Deputy Defense Minister Mordechai Gur told Israel Radio's English service.

"Now that our economy is developing there is no reason ... that it will develop only [with the help of] Palestinian workers from the territories," Gur said, adding that he could not confirm numbers.

"The most important thing is organizing for a longer term of closure ... recognizing that the

(Continued on Page 2)

Health lab workers to strike today

Clinic staff will handle emergencies only

JUDY SIEGEL

OUTPATIENT clinics in hospitals and community clinics around the country will be closed, and veterinary inspections of poultry and cattle, as well as lab work in universities and district health offices, will be halted this morning - as some 7,000 biochemists, microbiologists and lab technicians begin an open-ended strike.

Union chief Asher Goldshlager said last night that staffers would handle only emergencies. The union is demanding "the same wage increase recently granted to the university lecturers - 80 percent." Asked why lab workers de-

serve to be linked to the lecturers, Goldshlager explained: "You'll see how important we are when we stop doing our work."

The lab workers are also concerned about reports that people in their profession have high risks for cancer and other diseases due to exposure to chemicals and other harmful substances. They are demanding more protective equipment to reduce the danger.

No comment was available from the Health Ministry.

Meanwhile, 1,000 X-ray techni-

cians throughout the country will return to work this morning, after being persuaded by a labor court to end a strike that began on Thursday. Negotiations with the union will begin today.

Treasury wage director Shalom Granit and Histadrut trade union official Ephraim Zilony will meet this week to discuss the various labor disputes in the health sector. Other staffers, including public-sector pharmacists, physiotherapists and occupational therapists, are also threatening to apply sanctions following major wage increases in the universities.

Terrorist stabs woman in capital park

BILL HUTMAN and Itim

A YOUNG woman was stabbed and seriously wounded by an Arab terrorist in Jerusalem last night, as she walked through a city park to meet her boyfriend.

Janit Pitoussi, 19, ran about 50 meters with a kitchen knife in her abdomen before collapsing on the East Talpiot promenade, said police spokesman Shmuel Ben-Ruby.

She was stabbed in a small park between the promenade and the East Talpiot neighborhood, apparently by a lone assailant, Ben-Ruby said.

Police set up roadblocks and searched the area after the attack, detaining six Arab men. Jerusalem Police chief Yehuda Wilk oversaw the search and initial investigation.

Pitoussi was taken by ambulance to Hadassah-University Hospital, Ein Kerem, where she was reported in satisfactory condition.

"Pitoussi's boyfriend said he had made a date to meet her at the spot and was waiting for her when someone ran buy shouting that there had been a stabbing."

He said he ran over to the spot where the incident occurred, and then saw it was his girlfriend.

Ben-Ruby said there were no witnesses to the attack. As of late last night, the teenager had not recovered sufficiently to give police a description of her assailant.

Sentencing today in bank shares trial

Jerusalem Post Staff

THE banks and individuals convicted in the bank shares manipulation case are to be sentenced in Jerusalem District Court today.

Bank Leumi, Bank Discount, Bank Hapoalim, Mizrahi Bank and IDB Bankholding were all convicted of aggravated fraud in persuading customers to buy shares based on false information. Leumi, Discount, and IDB were also convicted of securities fraud and misleading their customers.

Several former senior officials of the banks were also convicted of both violating the duties of a bank manager and aggravated fraud. These included IDB chairman Raphael Recanat; his son Udi, who

headed Discount's stock market operations at the time; Eliahu Cohen, then Discount's deputy chairman; Mordechai Einhorn, former chief operations officer of Bank Leumi; Giora Gazit, former managing director of Hapoalim; and Aharon Meir, former managing director of Mizrahi. The first four were also convicted of securities fraud and misleading customers.

In addition, all were convicted of falsifying corporate documents, except Udi Recanat, who was acquitted because of doubt. Haim Baksbaum, the former head of Leumi's financial division;

Dan Bavli, who audited Leumi's books; and Dov Naveh, Mizrahi's accountant, were all found guilty of falsifying corporate documents.

The state asked the court to sentence those convicted in the case to both prison terms and heavy fines, but asked that the prison terms be served by community service. The state also asked that a fine of about NIS 1 million be imposed on each of the convicted banks.

The state requested only suspended sentences and fines for Baksbaum, Bavli, and Naveh. Their fines, Lador added, should be less than those of the managers, since their responsibility was less.

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'I was unaware of my husband's plans'

Miriam Goldstein testifies before Shamgar Commission in closed session

MIRIAM Goldstein did not know that her husband, Baruch, was planning to carry out a massacre, according to her testimony to the Shamgar Commission of Inquiry last Wednesday.

On the contrary, she said, he had been planning to take the children to hear the reading of the scroll of Esther on Purim morning.

Goldstein gave evidence before the commission behind closed doors at her request, and the official protocol was released on Friday.

Questioned by Supreme Court President and commission head Meir Shamgar, Goldstein said that, when she woke up on the morning of the massacre, she realized her husband had not gone to pray at the Machpela Cave.

"I saw the talit and tefillin and the scroll of Esther on the table. He had prepared them the day before. The plan was that he would take the children to read the megilla at Kiryat Arba... We

prepared their Purim costumes," she told the commission.

"Even if he had changed his mind, it wasn't possible that he would go to pray without taking the necessary religious paraphernalia," she added.

Asked whether her husband had ever expressed the wish to kill Arabs, or see others do so, Goldstein said: "No." But she added that her husband had "always complained about the lack of action on the part of the government, the army and the police, who were not fulfilling their roles properly and disregarding us and our lives."

"It is still a mystery to me," she said when asked to explain her husband's acts. "I turn it over in my mind all the time, but I haven't managed to find a solution."

Goldstein told the commission she had woken early and seen that her husband was not in bed. She tried to find him at her in-laws and spoke to the duty officer at the telecommunications depot, she

BATSEVA TSUR

said. "At some stage, he [Edelstein, the duty officer] said that someone dropped him [her husband] off at the Machpela Cave to pray and then I said that he did not go there to pray."

Prof. Menahem Ya'ari: And then you started to worry?

Goldstein: I was worried, because the duty officer has to know where the duty doctor is, especially since there was a meeting with him. I asked him [Edelstein] if he had called him that night and he said 'no' at first. He was very confused... sleepy... At some stage, he said that he thought he was at the emergency depot."

She said she had found it "very strange, very strange indeed," when security officer Ungar [who dropped Baruch Goldstein at the cave] brought her her husband's car keys. "I expressed my surprise to him."

Goldstein said she had not noticed anything amiss in her husband's behavior the night before the massacre. They did not discuss the incident that night [when her husband left the prayers midway following an incident with Moslem worshippers], she said, because they did not like to bring up such matters in the family circle. She herself had heard the cry "Itubah al-yahud" ("Kill the Jews") over the muezzins' loudspeakers, she said.

Goldstein denied press reports that she had asked that her husband be stopped.

Justice Abdel Rahman Zuabi: Perhaps this is the point where I should ask you: Did you really not stop him, did you really not try to stop him?

Goldstein: No.

Zuabi: And did you not know that he was going to do this act? Goldstein: No, no.

At the conclusion of her testimony, Goldstein turned to the commission members and said: "I have not yet heard of the intention to investigate the circumstances of

my husband's murder, and I'd really like to know why."

She added that, in her opinion, there had been others who had used guns - from the Arab side.

She also asked the commission to return to her all her husband's possessions including some notes that were found in his pockets.

Goldstein was accompanied by her father-in-law, who took the opportunity to show the commission certificates and newspaper cuttings about his son's achievements.

This morning, the commission is due to hear three Waik guards who were subpoenaed after previously refusing to come before the commission. The three were released on bail over the weekend after being detained at the Hebron lockup to ensure they would testify.

Today's hearings will start at 10:30 in Hall 3 of the Supreme Court.

MK Oron: Ramon can be No. 1 on Meretz Histadrut list

MICHAEL YUDELMAN

MK Haim Oron, head of Meretz's list for the Histadrut elections, announced yesterday that if MK Haim Ramon wanted to leave Labor and join Meretz's list for the elections, he would agree to relinquish the list's top spot.

"We will welcome Ramon with open arms," Oron said, speaking at the event launching Meretz's campaign for the Histadrut elections, at Tel Aviv's Tzavta club last night.

Ramon, although not present, seemed to be the main topic of discussion at the gathering, where almost all Meretz leaders said they would welcome his joining their list.

Communications and Science Minister Shulamit Aloni added that if Ramon decides to form a non-partisan list, whose platform corresponds with that of Meretz, "I would not rule out going to meet him in a broad front. If such a dramatic development takes place we would re-organize quickly for it."

Meretz's Histadrut faction head, MK Ran Cohen, who is No. 2 on Meretz's current list for the Histadrut elections, went even further, saying "if Ramon runs for the Histadrut, then we must form a joint list and Meretz will join him gladly."

Meretz's enthusiasm for Ramon comes despite stern warnings from Labor that cooperating with the former health minister would be considered a betrayal.

Aloni has apparently not been swayed, calling Ramon "a brave man for his determination to do

battle against the Histadrut's corruption and malaise. There is no reason for us not to cooperate with him if we find that his positions mesh with our platform."

The possibility of linking up with Ramon, however, has triggered off a bitter battle within Mapam between those in favor of the move and those - including Mapam's senior Histadrut activists - who insist that "if Ramon is in, we are out."

These activists yesterday boycotted the opening campaign event, saying that if Ramon joins Meretz, then they will demand that Mapam leave Meretz and join up with Labor. Ramon's linking up with Meretz would require the approval of Mapam's institutions and it is not clear whether his supporters or detractors have the majority there.

MK Anat Maor, of Mapam, said that Ramon has made no secret of his positions concerning the Histadrut "and it appears from his statements that he wants to destroy the Histadrut."

"To what extent is Ramon motivated by his concern for the workers?" she added. "These are issues which we must examine together with him before we decide."

Meretz sources admitted yesterday that Ramon's joining would highlight the party's internal differences concerning social and economic issues, which Meretz has so far succeeded in minimizing.

Sarah Honig contributed to this report.

Syria: Clinton not meeting promises

DAMASCUS (Reuters) - Syria said yesterday US President Bill Clinton had promised a sharp change in Washington's stance on the Middle East, perceived by Arabs as pro-Israeli, but had not delivered.

Ameed Khoulil, editor of the government daily *Al-Thawra*, said in a front-page commentary Clinton made the pledge during talks with Syrian President Hafez Assad in Geneva on January 16. "There were pledges, some of which were leaked, and some were announced and all pointed that there will be a sharp change in the US position leading to a parallel change in the strategies of the region and its future position," Khoulil said.

But he added that Israel has apparently blocked such a change in the three months since the Geneva meeting. "US decisions and moves have been largely marked by confusion and hesitation," the *Al-Thawra* editor said.

Khoulil said Washington is biased in favor of Israel and urged it to play a more balanced role in the peace talks by putting pressure on Israel to make concessions in talks with Syria, Jordan and Lebanon. "The continuation of such positions towards Israel will encourage it to continue its obstinacy and rejection of peace," he added.

As an example of Washington's position, he compared US-inspired UN Security Council delays in condemning the Hebron mosque massacre with a rapid condemnation of a Palestinian car bomb which killed seven Israelis.

Soldiers kill youth after attempted ax attack

News agencies

SOLDIERS at the Erez checkpoint fatally shot a Palestinian youth yesterday in after he threatened them with an ax, the army said.

The incident at the crossing into the Gaza Strip came a day after the inner cabinet decided to seek an open-ended closure to keep Palestinian workers out and import foreign workers to replace them.

Arab reporters said that 18-year-old Atef Juma Abed from Gaza City was killed while trying to attack soldiers with the ax.

They said the ax handle was etched with the signature of Hamas that has taken responsibility for the killing of seven people in Wednesday's car bomb attack.

A military source confirmed that soldiers shot and killed a Palestinian after he tried to attack them with an ax even after they yelled at him to halt. Eyewitnesses said he rushed at the soldiers, and brandishing the ax yelled "Allahu Akbar" (God is great) before he was shot twice. He died later of his wounds.

In another incident, Dib Otman Da'as, 55, of Haja near Tulkarm was murdered yesterday morning by terrorists.

Arab sources said he was a known collaborator and carried a gun. Two masked men shot him, took his weapon and fled, they said. He was taken to the hospital, where he was pronounced dead.



Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Ehud Barak awards a certificate of merit Friday to Sgt. D. for his quick action in shooting the terrorist who shot a man to death and wounded several others at the Ashdod junction Thursday. (Yossi Cohen/IDF Spokesman)

US, Israelis at Jackson dinner: Accord is race against clock

DAVID MAKOVSKY

THE Gaza/Jericho accord is a race against the clock, and this fragile agreement must be reinforced by public support to avoid being derailed by violence perpetrated by extremists on both sides, Israelis and Americans agreed in a candid dinner discussion that Foreign Minister Shimon Peres hosted for visiting US civil rights leader Jesse Jackson last night.

Below are excerpts of comments made by some of the participants in an open conversation about prospects for peace. US Ambassador Edward Djerejian: "It is a race against time between terror and peace. The question is will violence overtake the political process? We have no choice but to reinforce the forces for peace."

Environment Minister Yossi Sarid: "The enemy of peace is terror. It is very harmful that [PLO chairman Yasser] Arafat did not condemn [the] Afula [bombing]."

(Continued from Page One) main goal is to return the sense of security to residents of Israel and to create a situation in which workers from the territories will not enter." Agricultural Minister Ya'acov Tsur told Army Radio yesterday.

The Israeli Contractors Association called for 30,000 foreign laborers and estimated an additional 40,000 Israelis could be recruited. During the past two years, Namir has attempted to pull local

Peace is less popular than it was on September 13th [day of White House signing]. I hope you, Rev. Jackson, do what you can to preach non-violence.

"Peace is irreversible [over time], but not at every instance. If this [Labor] government is replaced by another, the peace process will be reversible."

Jackson: "We have the [peace-making] assets, but we don't have the time. Something bold needs to be done to get us out of the muck and mire of yesterday's politics. Something that focuses public attention on the politics of hope, and not the politics of fear."

"The main thing is to popularize peace among the people, and not just among the politicians."

Foreign Ministry Director-General Uri Savir: "The PLO must realize that the politics of consensus is an ally of struggle, not of

peacemaking. Arafat must yield on consensus, because if he does not stand up against Hamas and others, they [can get stronger and] eventually turn on him. He should realize by not condemning violence, the problem is his."

Arab-American leader James Zogby: "In the case of Arafat, it should be realized that he does not have institutions at this point in time. But the larger point is that among both Israelis and Palestinians, the right-wing in each camp is driving the debate."

"At the same time, gestures reinforce leadership. For example, the Palestinians want to parade into Gaza with their policemen. This would give them pride. Lost is the drama felt on September 13th."

Savir: "For years, we have been told that gestures are just aspirin. Now, we need to stick to the agreement."

(Jackson in Hebron, Page 12)

Man killed while trying to help others in accident

A 25-YEAR-OLD Beduin man was hit by a car and killed yesterday as he tried to cross the Ayalon expressway to help people who had been involved in a two-car accident.

Basbir Hariv was driving towards Tel Aviv when he spotted an accident on the other side of the highway. He stopped, parked his car, and headed to the other side of the road. However, before he reached the median, he was hit by a car and killed. The driver of the car, 26, was detained by police but later released.

Last night, a policeman riding a motorcycle suffered serious injuries when he collided with a car at an intersection in Ramat Gan. Three passengers in the car also were injured. Apparently, one of the vehicles involved in the accident ran a red light.

On Friday, a Jerusalem cab driver who suffered serious injuries after he collided with a bus on the road to Gilo died later at Hadassah-University Hospital at Ein Kerem. He had been trapped in his car and had to be rescued by the fire department.

Near Lod, 10 children and two adults were injured in an accident on Friday when a minibus transporting children collided with a commercial vehicle. (Itim)

NAMIR

jobless into agriculture by offering a NIS 30 daily bonus over pay offered by employers, with limited success.

Some 3,900 such workers are scheduled to have their pay subsidized till the end of April. Another 2,000 still have three months of subsidies ahead of them. If Namir gets her way - her plan has been opposed in the past by Finance

Minister Avraham Shohat - all those currently subsidized will continue working with a government bonus till the end of the year.

Both citrus growers and flower producers have complained of severe financial losses despite the movement of workers in their sectors, because it takes more than a season to train a local worker to yield the output of the skilled Arab hands formerly employed in agriculture.

PELED

Pinhas Marinsky, who was among those who petitioned the High Court against Peled. "It is only a pity he waited for the strong hints of the High Court judges, instead of resigning a long time ago," Marinsky said.

Attorney-General Michael Ben-Yair, who was strongly criticized by the High Court in its decision, released a statement expressing his sorrow over the resignation.

Marinsky called for Ben-Yair to also resign, on grounds the High Court had found that he failed to properly carry out his duties.

Police sources, meanwhile, said it was unlikely Ben-Yair would now reopen the investigation into Peled's alleged wrongdoing, as the High Court had already ruled the matter was not criminal, but disciplinary.

Nahman proposes united right

SARAH HONIG

LIKUD MK Ron Nahman has launched an initiative to set up a "United National Jewish Party," to be composed of the Likud, the National Religious Party, and Tsomet.

He envisions setting up a united Knesset faction immediately, as a first phase, and then fielding a single list in the next Knesset elections.

Nahman sees this "as the only apt reply to the difficulties plaguing the nation now and the dispiriting effect this government's policies is having on the population. Unity in the national camp will infuse a new spirit into the people and a real hope for change."

"The right-wing won more votes than the left in 1992, but lost power because of the fragmentation

and divisiveness in its ranks," he said. "The prospect of harmony and unity can really change things around. It can be a catalyst for bringing this government down," he argued.

The one encouraging response he has already received came from Tsomet leader Rafael Eitan, who agrees that "such a move towards unity would be the best possible response to what the general public yearns for."

CORRECTION

In a picture caption on Page 14 of the April 6 issue, the Marina Hotel was incorrectly identified as being connected with the Jewish Agency. The Jewish Agency has absolutely no connection with the hotel.

Cmdr. Hefetz likely replacement for Peled

BILL HUTMAN

OUTSPOKEN central district police chief Cmdr. Asaf Hefetz is the most likely replacement for outgoing Inspector-General Rafi Peled, senior police sources said last night.

The final decision on the appointment is expected in the coming days. Police Minister Moshe Shaleh is likely to meet with Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin as early as today to discuss the matter.

Shaleh has already announced he will consult with Peled before making a decision. Peled last night declined to comment on whom he would recommend for the post.

Hefetz, 49, also serves as deputy inspector-general, which is considered an honorary position. Shaleh appointed him last year after passing him over in favor of Peled for the inspector-general's job.

With a reputation for speaking his mind, Hefetz threatened to quit the police when he was not appointed inspector-general. Shaleh convinced him to stay by promising him he was next in line for the post, police sources said.

Hefetz was recognized for commanding the anti-terror unit that overcame the terrorist hijackers in the Coastal Road massacre in 1978. He has held several senior posts with the Israel Police since joining the force in 1975.

Police sources, meanwhile, said Jerusalem Police chief Cmdr. Yehuda Wilk is also a likely candidate to replace Peled. Also in the running, but long shots, are Tel Aviv Police chief Cmdr. Gabi Lavi and Arye Amit, head of police operations.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Two killed when vehicle falls over cliff

Two 25-year-old men from the Beduin towns of Hura and Tel Arad were killed yesterday afternoon when their home-made all-terrain vehicle fell off a 300-meter cliff near the Einim Cave in the Judean Desert. The circumstances of the accident were still not clear last night.

Rescue units at Ein Gedi were informed of the accident at about 2:30. An air force helicopter landed a doctor in the area, who pronounced the two dead. Recovery of the bodies took several hours because of the difficult terrain. Amir Rozenblit

Plans finalized for Hebron observer force

A working party of officials from Italy, Denmark, and Norway has finalized plans to send an observer force to monitor security in Hebron, the Italian Foreign Ministry said yesterday.

The European nations will send a 160-strong force to Hebron, which will operate there for three months, the statement said.

Under the terms of their mandate, the observers will monitor security and the commitment of the two sides to ensure a return to normal conditions for the Palestinian population. Reuters

Demonstrations against gov't held last night

Protests against government policies were held in many locations throughout the country last night. Demonstrations involving hundreds of protesters took place in Afula, Bat Yam and Haifa. In Afula, dozens of youths burned tires and threw stones.

EU calls for continuation of negotiations

The European Union on Friday urged Israelis and Palestinians to continue with peace negotiations, despite the violence following the bombing in Afula.

"The European Union has already condemned, in the clearest possible way, all acts of violence... and it calls on the Palestine Liberation Organization to condemn this attack," the Greek Foreign Ministry said in a statement.

Greece currently holds the EU's six-month rotating presidency.

The EU "stresses, once again, the need for a swift completion of the negotiations between Israelis and Palestinians, which it considers the only way to avoid an escalation of the violence by extremist elements," the statement said. It noted the Israeli government called for the negotiations to continue. AP

Bonds leaders arriving today

An international delegation of 200 members of the Israel Bonds "Prime Minister's Club" are to arrive today for a five-day visit, during which they will meet with Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, President Ezer Weizman, Likud chairman Benjamin Netanyahu, Finance Minister Avraham Shohat, Police and Energy Minister Moshe Shaleh, and other officials. Itim

Winning cards

In Friday's Mifal Hapayis daily Chance card draw, the lucky cards were the jack of spades, eight of hearts, seven of diamonds and 10 of clubs.

Oberson 1

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My dear mother

ILANA KOLAR passed away

The funeral will take place on Sunday, April 10, 1994 at 2 p.m. at Sede Yehoshua cemetery

Gate no. 1

Mourmed by daughter Ronit and family

120 nations to usher in new trading order

GENEVA (AP) — After seven years of tempestuous talks, the skies over Marrakesh will be remarkably clear next week for the signing of a multi-billion dollar international trade deal.

But renewed storms could quickly follow. Ministers from about 120 nations gather in the ancient Moroccan city Tuesday for four days of congratulatory speeches leading to the signing of the Uruguay Round trade liberalizing accord.

The hard business will be done on the sidelines.

US Trade Representative Mickey Kantor hopes to meet Japanese Foreign Minister Tsutomu Hata to continue the push for more American access to the lucrative Asian market. But Hata — the favorite to succeed Morihiro Hosokawa as Prime Minister — may have to stay in Tokyo.

Kantor and European Union counterpart Sir Leon Brittan will hold negotiations on a deal for state-owned European companies to buy more from foreign firms.

The United States will also conduct top-level talks with Canada and Mexico — its partners in the North American Free Trade Agreement — and Asian and Pacific countries.

Center stage in Marrakesh will be a mammoth agreement which rolls back barriers to exports in traditionally protected areas like agriculture and textiles, opens service industries like tourism to foreign competition and protects copyright and patents from abuse.

Attached will be a 2,000-

page list of new, lower import duties which add up to a statistician's dream and a customs officer's nightmare. This was agreed to following painful bargaining and will lead to a cut of about 40 percent in average import tariffs. It will bring down prices of thousands of products ranging from electronics to cars to food.

The Uruguay Round is expected to pump an additional \$200-300 billion annually into the world economy by early next century.

Also up for signing is a protocol on the establishment of a new World Trade Organization, WTO, to succeed the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, which was set up after World War II as a temporary body.

As if that weren't enough paperwork, there will be ministerial declarations to coincide with the signing of the package.

The United States had threatened to boycott the declaration unless it contained a specific reference to labor rights, thus putting the issue firmly on the future trade agenda.

Vice President Al Gore will fly to Morocco on Apr. 14 to address the GATT ministers.

True to GATT's best fudging traditions, negotiators on Thursday neatly side-stepped the problem after frantic diplomacy by GATT Director-General Peter Sutherland. Labor standards will not be mentioned in the declaration but will be dealt with later by a committee drawing up the mandate of the WTO.

Foreigners flee Rwanda mayhem

Belgium, France and US send troops to help with evacuation of nationals

CONVOYS of foreigners fled the capital of Kigali yesterday as rebels launched new attacks against Rwandan troops in ethnic fighting that has killed hundreds.

Belgium, France, and the United States sent troops into the area yesterday to assist with the evacuation, and Belgium dispatched five transport planes in the possible removal of more than 2,000 Belgians, French and US nationals.

The new fighting came less than 24 hours after the United Nations announced security forces in Rwanda had named an interim government and agreed to a ceasefire with the rebels in a bid to restore order to Kigali.

But a rebel leader said they were never consulted about a cease-fire. "We are not aware of any such deal, so this is a continuation of the war," said Vice Chair-

man Patrick Mazimhaka of the Rwandan Patriotic Front in rebel-held Mulindi.

The presidents of Rwanda and Burundi — both ethnic Hutu — were killed Wednesday when their plane was reportedly shot down over the Kigali airport.

Their deaths ignited savage fighting in which the mostly Hutu presidential guard reportedly killed the acting prime minister and kidnapped three Cabinet ministers. Unconfirmed reports said the ministers had been killed.

The ruling Hutus and the minority Tutsis have fought for decades in Rwanda and Burundi. Rwandan President Juvenal Habyarimana and Burundi President Cyprien Ntaryamira were returning from a peace conference in Tanzania aimed at ending the ethnic strife when their plane crashed.

PAULINE JELINEK

MULINDI

France sent the first of 400 paratroops into Kigali airport yesterday to prepare for the evacuation.

The United States followed with the vanguard of 330 Marines, which arrived in Bujumbura, the capital of neighboring Burundi.

Belgium then dispatched the first of 300 paratroops into the area.

There are about 1,500 Belgians, 600 French and 255 Americans in the former Belgian trust territory, military officials said.

Any evacuation was to be coordinated between the forces in the European and US forces, diplomats said.

The US Embassy in Kigali said a convoy of 50 vehicles took foreign-

ers out of the capital yesterday, Belgian radio reported. Two other convoys were being organized, according to the broadcast monitored by the BBC.

It was not known how many people were involved or their nationalities.

US military spokesman Col. Larry Icenogle confirmed from Washington that Americans were among those being evacuated in the convoys. He said he believed they had French military escorts.

He did not know how many people were being evacuated or who was organizing the convoys.

The United Nations was also considering sending 1,500 reinforcements to the peacekeeping force in Rwanda to evacuate foreigners, but long deliberations would be likely before they could be sent. A Security Council ses-

sion was planned later yesterday. Distant shelling could be heard yesterday from the rebel camp at Mulindi, 70 kms north of the capital. A UN observer, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the rebels were attacking on three fronts.

Gen. Paul Kagame, chairman of the rebel high command, said they were fighting the hard-line presidential guard.

"We appeal to all Rwandans to help fight this clique, including government soldiers who may want to join us," Kagame said yesterday on rebel radio Mubwura.

Another rebel commander, Theogene Rudasingwa, said the Rwanda Patriotic Front was trying to advance on Kigali to reinforce 600 rebels, mainly Tutsis, battling the Hutu guard and government troops. (AP)

IRA ends truce

BELFAST — The IRA launched four attacks on army posts and security forces yesterday, sending the signal that it won't give up violence as the price for talks with Britain.

The 72-hour unilateral ceasefire, called by the IRA in hopes of pressuring British Prime Minister John Major into communicating with the IRA's allied Sinn Féin party, was scheduled to end at midnight Friday.

Within five minutes, the IRA opened fire with automatic weapons on a British road checkpoint in south Fermanagh 130 km southwest of Belfast, injuring no one.

The biggest attack came further east along Northern Ireland's army post-studded border with the Irish Republic.

An IRA unit fired one of its four-foot-long "barracks buster" mortar shells from the rear of a tractor at the Aghnacloy road checkpoint 65 km southwest of Belfast, but it fell short, cratering a cow field and shattering the windows of nearby homes.

Police said the IRA phoned a warning to an Aghnacloy gas station three minutes before that attack. Police later evacuated 60 families from their homes to the town's two church halls. (AP)

Bombs blast 3 hotels in Sri Lanka

COLOMBO (Reuters) — Sri Lankan Tamil rebels exploded three bombs in luxury hotels in what a presidential aide called an attempt to frighten away tourists while a fourth blew up prematurely, killing one man carrying it.

"It is a disruption campaign to frighten tourists. It is aimed at disrupting tourism and creating a certain amount of panic," K.H.J. Wijedasa told reporters at the Marriott Hotel.

But the Defense Ministry said it could be timed to disrupt the Sinhala and Tamil New Year, falling on April 13 and 14.

Wijedasa, secretary to President D.B. Wijetunga, said security would be tightened in many areas of Colombo. Police and army immediately stepped up roadblocks in the capital.

Serbs press offensive in defiance of UN

SARAJEVO (AP) — Bosnian Serbs used tanks and artillery to capture a key ridge above the Muslim town of Gorazde in defiance of efforts to broker a truce, UN officials said yesterday.

UN spokesman Maj. Rob Annink said the Serb assault on the ridge put them "in line of sight" of the city center four km away, well within artillery range.

Annink said Serbs "have the initiative and military dominance in the Gorazde pocket," which is 55 km southeast of Sarajevo. He said the Serbs launched their "major advance" during what was supposed to be a 24-hour cooling-off period.

UN aid officials reported two deaths on Friday, bringing the total to at least 85 since the offensive started about two weeks ago. Nearly 400 people have been wounded.

The fighting threatens recent progress toward peace, including a Moslem-Serb truce that has kept Sarajevo quiet since Feb. 10 and an accord by Croats and the Moslem-led government to stop fighting and form a federation.

NATO commanders in Naples said yesterday they were prepared for military intervention in Bosnia

if the UN requests it but preferred efforts to find a peaceful solution.

The stronghold taken by the Serbs is known as the Gradina heights, overlooking the center of Gorazde from across the Drina River to the south. UN officials earlier had expressed confidence that government forces could hold the ridge, considered crucial to the town's defense.

As concern mounted, military chiefs from both sides went to the Sarajevo airport yesterday for truce talks mediated by the UN commander in Bosnia, Lt. Gen. Sir Michael Rose.

Delegations led by the government commander, Gen. Rasim Delic, and the Serb military chief, Gen. Ratko Mladic, were to start the session in separate rooms with Rose shuttling between them.

US special envoy Charles Redman also was mediating. Though there was no shelling of Gorazde on Friday, Annink said, "a number of villages were seen burning" in outlying areas.

The main Moslem political party in the Sandzack area of Serbia to the south issued a statement saying Yugoslav federal troops with tanks and artillery had been crossing the border to support the Serb assault.



South African President F.W. de Klerk, left, ANC leader Nelson Mandela, Zulu King Goodwill Zwelithini and Inkatha head Mangosuthu Buthelezi at a press conference after their meeting at a camp in the Kruger National Park on Friday. (Reuters)

S African summit ends in stalemate

JOHANNESBURG (Reuters) — A defiant Mangosuthu Buthelezi said yesterday there could be fresh violence in South Africa's Zulu heartland of Natal after a peace summit aimed at ending bloodletting broke up without agreement.

"I have never seen the level of anger as high as the current level it has reached," the Zulu chief told reporters in the KwaZulu homeland capital of Ulundi.

He said the mood was unlikely to ease before the country's first all-race elections on April 26-28 which the Zulu leaders are boycotting.

Police reported at least four more deaths in Natal overnight, including two men and a youth gunned down when attackers armed with AK-47 rifles sprayed pedestrians with bullets in the coastal town of Stanger.

Police spokesman Major Bala Ndoo in Durban said the attack was linked to political rivalry between Buthelezi's Inkatha Freedom Party and Nelson Mandela's rival African National Congress.

The three deaths and one at Inanda outside Durban brought to at least 140 the number of people killed in KwaZulu-Natal since

President F.W. de Klerk declared a state of emergency on March 31 to halt the bloodshed in the region.

Buthelezi, de Klerk, Mandela and Zulu King Goodwill Zwelithini attended Friday's peace summit in a remote bush lodge in the Kruger national game park.

Buthelezi bitterly attacked the emergency rule, referring to "strong-arm tactics" on the part of the government and ANC.

"People are incensed at it," he said. The two Zulu leaders are seeking virtual autonomy for KwaZulu-Natal in post-apartheid

South Africa. The king has also called for a sovereign Zulu state.

De Klerk, speaking at a rally in Orange Free State town of Smithfield, where his ruling National Party was founded in 1914, said yesterday the state of emergency on its own "cannot solve the underlying problems which cause the death and instability in that province."

He said elements in Inkatha were misusing the contentious issue of the king's future role in KwaZulu to cause tension.

"This gives the impression that the ANC and the government were intent on harming the inter-

ests of the monarchy. I say that is a lie," de Klerk said.

Mandela, on an election trip in the Western Transvaal, expressed regret that Zwelithini had turned down an ANC offer on Friday designed to ensure his position in the new South Africa.

"We are giving him privilege, status and rights which are far more than the constitution of KwaZulu gives him," he said.

Buthelezi, speaking before a crisis meeting of the party's central committee yesterday, reiterated his call for a postponement of the polls at the end of the month for a national constituent assembly and nine provincial legislatures.

Woodstock anniversary show is on

SAUGERTIES, N.Y. (AP) — The Woodstock 25th anniversary concert is on.

After months of wrangling over money matters, sanitation, environmental impact and cleanup, the red tape turned to a green light yesterday.

The Ulster County health commissioner's approval of a mass gathering permit cleared the way for concert site construction to be-

gin in Saugerties, about 150 km north of New York.

The concert is scheduled for Aug. 13-14 and will feature 30 groups. Organizers expect about 250,000 people to attend the show. Who will play has not been announced.

Michael Lang, organizer of the original concert in 1969, said the anniversary show is dedicated to the same spirit as the first.

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Japan in ferment after prime minister quits

Resignation follows reports on financial dealings

JAPAN'S ruling coalition struggled without success yesterday to pick a replacement for popular Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa, whose abrupt resignation on Friday over past possible financial irregularities has left Japan in political disarray.

The leaders, struggling to contain a deepening division within its ranks, decided behind closed doors to give itself seven days to choose a successor.

"We have agreed in principle to form a new government by the end of next week," Socialist Party secretary-general Wataru Kubo told a news conference after the eight-member coalition met.

Hosokawa stays on as caretaker until parliament elects a new prime minister, now likely to take place by next Saturday. Kubo said the coalition aimed to re-open parliamentary debate on the long-stalled state budget for 1994/95 by April 18.

Fighting has always been a problem for the eight-month-old alliance, and its inability to swiftly to pick a new leader raised fears of an extended bout of political gridlock.

Foreign Minister Tsutomu Hata was seen as a strong candidate to replace Hosokawa, but he has apparently not managed to nail down the backing he would need.

"We're not at the point of saying who would be good or not," said Tomiichi Murayama, secretary-general of the Socialists, the largest bloc in the coalition.

Still unanswered were questions about the fate of ambitious economic reforms Hosokawa was unable to push through, and how the political paralysis would affect international issues such as the North Korean nuclear threat and

News agencies
TOKYO



Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa at a press conference in Tokyo on Friday during which he announced his resignation. (AP)

Japan's troubled trade relations with the United States.

Hosokawa, who is stepping down amid mounting pressure of him to do so, has given no indication he is having second thoughts about giving up his post.

The 56-year-old prime minister took office pledging to clean up Japan's dirty politics, and did manage to get a political-reform package approved during his brief tenure. But in the end he was felled by the same sort of money-for-favors scandal that has brought

down four of the last five governments.

Debate over the scandal had blocked parliamentary business for the past month, halting work on the budget for this fiscal year and other initiatives.

"Having achieved the goal of political reforms, we have since been entrusted with the task of economic reforms, and I am sure this is something that the new Cabinet will also pursue," Hosokawa told a Trilateral Commission plenary meeting yesterday.

Hosokawa did not attend yesterday's coalition meeting. Announcing his resignation on Friday, he said it would be imprudent for him to name a successor or take part in coalition discussions.

The resignation of Hosokawa, Japan's self-proclaimed "Mr. Clean", threw national politics into ferment.

The opposition Liberal Democrats, who governed for nearly four decades until they were toppled by Hosokawa's coalition, were trying to determine if the unexpected turn of events would give them a chance to again seize control.

There has also been speculation that former Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe could defect from the Liberal Democrats, bringing his faction into the coalition and making a bid for its leadership — and thus the prime ministership.

Speaking to reporters, Watanabe did not rule out such a realignment.

"There are a number of pressing issues right now, including the North Korean problem and policy toward the United States," he said. "We have to think about which party has policies closest to ours ... and form an alliance."



Space shuttle Endeavor pilot Nevin Chilton, front left, and commander Sidney Gutierrez gesture as they leave with the crew from their quarters at Cape Canaveral for the take-off yesterday. Behind them are astronauts Jay Apt and Thomas Jones, and in back row Linda Godwin and Rich Clifford. (Reuters)

The things that presidents say

Clinton takes the homespun approach

RON FOURNIER
WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT Bill Clinton may be a well-spoken graduate of Yale University, but he's showing a knack for using slang, veiled profanity, and homespun sayings to sum up complex issues and disarm opponents.

"This is a bunch of bull," the president of the United States spluttered in response to a Whitewater question.

He's not just in trouble. He's "in a pickle." The point is not just wrong. It's "a load of hooey."

It's not just expensive. It "costs out the wazoo."

A person isn't just smart. He's "as smart as a tree full of owls."

There's a danger in this, however, some say. Clinton's informal manner could demystify his presidency, making him less convincing at the somber moments of state when a president is called upon to speak for the country.

"At one level, it is charming; it suggests he's an outsider and suggests the ability to identify with real people. But the other side is we've always expected our presidents to be better than we are," said Kathleen Hall Jamieson, dean of the school of communications at the University of Pennsylvania and author of *Eloquence in an Electronic Age*.

Lyndon Johnson, ever the Southerner, compared victory in Vietnam to "nailing the coonskin to the wall."

President Reagan's famous preface, "Well ...," was a tactic that made his speech less formal, said Wayne Fields, an English profes-

sor at Washington University who studies presidential rhetoric.

Clinton's predecessor, George Bush, liked the old saying, "Life goes on." And his famous "read my lips" challenge reminded some of actor Clint Eastwood's "Make my day" line.

The most notable of Clinton's colloquialisms are his Southern expressions. As Arkansas governor, he used the expressions more often in rural areas than he did at home in Little Rock. As a presidential candidate, his language was more colorful during Southern swings.

Arguing in November for the North American Free Trade Agreement, Clinton said Japan and Germany would move into the Mexican market if the US didn't. "I would jump on this like flies on a June bug," he said.

Talking in October about the high cost of health care, he said: "You don't have to be as bright as a tree full of owls to figure out that eventually there would be some adverse consequence to that."

It's no accident that Clinton is at home sounding down-home.

"I think Clinton is an exceptionally eloquent

speaker. He mixes indigenous Southern language and linguistic patterns with a command of the English language," said William Ferris, director of the Center for the Study of Southern Culture at the University of Mississippi.

The most common Clinton-ism may be what linguists call pseudo-profanity, where he substitutes a more colorful alternative for a cuss word.

Asked in March about Whitewater-related accusations raised by a former Little Rock judge, Clinton said, "That's a load of hooey."

Making a point about medical care in February, Clinton said people "show up in an emergency room and it costs out the wazoo."

And how many times has Clinton said so-and-so doesn't "give a lick" about such-and-such?

"The use of such phrases enables Clinton to get his point across in a direct and forceful manner, while not offending public sensibilities," said Ellen Johnson, editor of the Linguistic Atlas of the Middle and South Atlantic States.

Clinton's attempts to make his language cozier sometimes fall flat.

He said stalling action on health care reform "will make it just like a hangnail or an ingrown toe nail. It's just going to get worse."

"Ugh! That's terrible," said Roger W. Shuy, professor of linguistics at Georgetown University. "But it's still evidence that he's looking for normal everyday natural things to make a point." (Associated Press)

Rock star Cobain dies of shotgun wound

SEATTLE (Reuters) — The rock music world yesterday mourned the death by apparent suicide of Kurt Cobain, the troubled lead singer of Nirvana, whose anguished lyrics gave voice to a generation.

Cobain, 27, who was at his Seattle home recovering from a drug and alcohol overdose in Rome last month, died of a shotgun wound to the head that apparently was self-inflicted, the county medical examiner said.

A suicide note was recovered near the body, but police refused to divulge its contents.



Kurt Cobain suicide note found. (AP)

Cobain's wife is the American rock singer Courtney Love.

The hopelessness reflected in Nirvana lyrics was rooted in Cobain's own troubled childhood and personal unhappiness, which appeared to deepen with success.

"The world has lost a great artist and we've lost a great friend," said Ed Rosenblatt, president of Nirvana's label, Geffen Records.

"He was dead already, killing himself every day with heroin," said a woman at the Crocodile Cafe, a popular Seattle club where Nirvana had played. "He was a selfish ... pig, if you ask me."

Spirit of defiance is growing in Canada

'Rigid moral values seem to be giving way'

JEFFREY ULBRICH
TORONTO

HOW do you identify a Canadian in New York? He's the one standing on the corner in a storm at 2 a.m., not a car in sight, waiting for the "Walk" light.

How do you get 400 Canadians out of the swimming pool? Just say, "OK, all you Canadians out of the pool."

Those are the standard jokes at any rate. Good old Canadians: so quiet, so disciplined, so honest, so straight they can't turn a corner without squeaking.

But that law-abiding attitude, the congenial politeness, the rigid moral values that turned this vast land into what is sometimes called "caffeine-free America," appear to be giving way to a more rebellious society.

A booming underground economy has sprung up, largely in reaction to a hated federal goods and services tax of 7 percent on virtually everything, even postage

stamps, added to provincial sales taxes of up to 12 percent.

It is common for home-repair contractors, auto mechanics, landscapers and other small entrepreneurs to give two estimates: cash, with no paperwork, and a much higher estimate that includes taxes and a receipt.

Cigarette taxes as high as 400 percent caused a revolt among Quebec merchants, who began selling cheap contraband smokes openly in defiance of the law. The revolt spread and, ultimately, the federal government and several provinces drastically reduced tobacco taxes.

The Supreme Court told Sue Rodriguez of British Columbia, ter-

minally ill with Lou Gehrig's disease, she could not have a doctor assist her in committing suicide. She did it anyway, with a member of Parliament at her side.

As more and more Third World immigrants and refugees come here seeking a new life, Canada's British-French culture is being diluted. This has led to increasing intolerance and racism.

A judge in Ontario ordered a ban on publication of evidence in a sensational sex-murder case until a second person charged had been tried. It didn't take long for details to spread across Canada through computer networks.

Things are so bad in New Bruns-

wick that the provincial government urges citizens to inform on people they suspect of evading taxes, using a crimestoppers telephone number New Brunswickers call "The Rat Line."

"Is government losing control over the people? Are Canadians suffering a moral crisis?"

"I wouldn't call it being immoral," said James O'Rourke, a senior member in philosophical theology and ethics at the Institute for Christian Studies. "It's trying to find new moral bearings."

"I'd hate to see us lose some of the things that have made this a pretty good place to live," said Michael McDonald, director of the Center for Applied Ethics at the University of British Columbia.

But there are new pressures and an increasing sense of injustice. "We are talking about the distribution of benefits and burdens in society," (Associated Press)

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Israel helps fill a page in genetic 'encyclopedia'

JUDY SIEGEL-ITZKOVICH

THINK of a language with only four letters in its alphabet that can produce 100,000 different words comprising millions of sentences and an infinite number of books.

This "library" is being assembled through the \$3 billion World Human Genome Project (WHGP), a 15-year global effort to decipher the entire human genetic makeup.

Israel - whose ethnic richness makes it an ideal laboratory for such research - will significantly expand its participation in WHGP thanks to major grants recently received by Tel Aviv University and the Weizmann Institute of Science.

A Bioinformatics Genome Resource Core will be established at the Rehovot institute, and a National Laboratory for Israel Population Genetics is to be set up at TAU. These facilities will enable scientists here to become full partners in the WHGP and help provide a molecular "encyclopedia" of human genes.

The massive international project, initiated by the US government in 1989 and due to be completed in 2004, will yield new possibilities for diagnosing, preventing and treating many genetic disorders, from cystic fibrosis and Tay-Sachs disease to some forms of mental retardation.

The four "letters" that are the building blocks of DNA are nucleotide bases named adenine, guanine, thymine and cytosine. DNA, the basic substance of genes, is comprised of phosphate, a sugar called deoxyribose and the four bases.

James Watson and Francis Crick discovered the structure of DNA four decades ago. It is arranged in units of phosphate-sugar-base, phosphate-sugar-base, repeated thousands of times to form long, coiled chains. Differences in the sequences account for diverse genetic makeup.

EACH DNA molecule contains some 20,000 phosphate-sugar-base units. A chromosome contains many thousands of DNA molecules. There are 46 chromosomes in human cells, each containing about 100,000 genes. There are about 1,000 bases laid down in a specific sequence in each gene and a lot of space between genes.

These numbers indicate the enormous task of figuring out the exact sequencing of the bases in the human genome.

There are already about 25 groups here, each with four to six scientists, working on sequencing, plus an additional 1,000 doing indirectly related work: people studying their "pet gene" in an effort to understand its mutations and functioning.

Prof. Meir Edelman, a plant geneticist at the Weizmann Institute of Science in Rehovot, is participating in the WHGP, along with a number of his colleagues.

"The genome project," he says, "gets its inspiration from man, but it encompasses all kinds of genetic work being done around the world, including analysis of the genes of plants, insects and bacteria."

Sequencing is done through a series of chemical reactions on substances derived from human white-blood cells. Today, the process is almost fully automated: DNA is extracted from the cells and put into a machine, which releases, base by base, the sequence of DNA. A research associate or technician operates the machines, but scientists are needed to minimize mistakes and carry out analyses.

The machinery available here allows testing of 400 to 500 nucleotides at a time.

"In a single day at Weizmann, we can sequence 10,000 to 20,000 bases. It's a very expensive procedure, costing about 30 or 40 cents per base. At first, we thought we'd leave sequencing to rich centers in the US and Europe, but then we decided to do some in order to keep our hand in it," Edelman says.

WEIZMANN'S bioinformatics center will try to put into the computer the entire genome and serve researchers throughout the country.

"We will serve as a gateway as cards with microchips are easily damaged and cost anywhere from \$3 to \$8 apiece. That's much more expensive than prepaid cards such as Bezeq's Telecard. They would, however, be safer than holding cash.

GERMANS SUPPORT ISRAELI AND PALESTINIAN RESEARCH The German government is interested in providing money for joint Israeli-Arab scientific research that results from the peace process, according to the Ministry of Science and the Arts.

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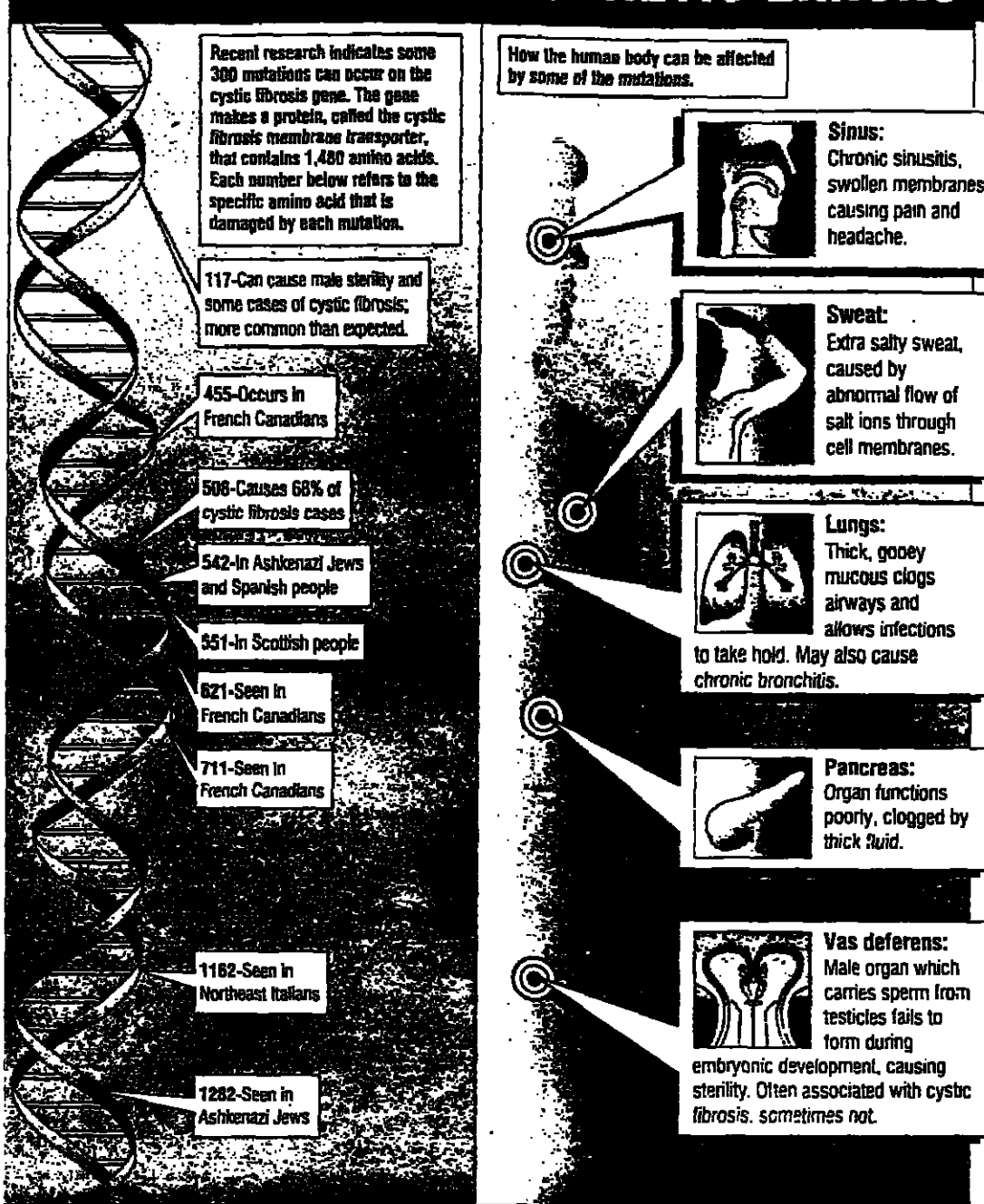
Scientists at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography in San Diego plan to place loudspeakers on the ocean floor off Big Sur, California, and blast sounds so loud that they could be heard in New Zealand. The noise would be broadcast every four hours for 20 minutes until the year 2004.

To humans, the noise would sound something like a bowling ball rolling down a lane, but whales and other marine mammals who use sonar to find their way could be frightened off their normal migratory route. A hearing will begin on the proposed project soon.

Responding to a wave of public criticism, scientists said last week that they will assist in completing an environmental assessment before starting the experiment.

The low rumbling sound would be broadcast at 195 decibels - some 10

SORTING OUT THE GENETIC ERRORS



Israel is part of a worldwide genetic study that will help prevent, detect and treat genetic disorders, including the cystic fibrosis gene shown in this graphic. (Hayim Cohen/Newsday)

the latest sequencing discoveries is received every night from data banks in Heidelberg and Washington.

There is another main activity in WHGP in addition to sequencing: gene mapping. The French have pioneered in mapping the genome, setting down a rough sketch of the positions of genes on each chromosome.

"Now," Edelman says, "efforts will be going into integrating the mapping with the sequencing. Both have to go on. Mapping gives us a scaffolding on which to place individual sequences, but sequencing allows us to do actual genetic work."

Prof. Batsheva Bonne-Tamir, a veteran human geneticist, is coordinating Tel Aviv University's participation in WHGP and estab-

lishing a human genome diversity project.

"Most of the genetic information collected abroad so far was from tests on Americans and Europeans. Scientists realized they needed data on others. I was invited to represent the Middle East area."

"We have for several years been collecting blood samples from a large variety of people living here, from Oriental and Ashkenazi Jews of various origins to Samaritans, Armenians, Druse and Arabs. We will preserve DNA from blood samples, grow cell lines and 'immortalize' them for future study by freezing them in liquid nitrogen."

Bonne-Tamir and her colleagues already have 450 cell lines from various ethnic groups,

including those in danger of disappearing due to intermarriage, as well as families with genetic diseases. All information is kept strictly confidential.

"We hope to collect several thousands of cell lines over the next few years."

TAU's National Laboratory for Israel Population Genetics will get funding from UNESCO and be able to help other countries set up biological-information banks. Collaboration with Poland is already under way.

The results of this massive research will not only add much to scientific information, but also be very practical. Gene therapy to treat disease and prevention of diseases will be available even before it's all figured out, Bonne-Tamir says.

Doctors zap bad image of shock therapy

HEALTH SCAN

POST HEALTH REPORTER

MANY people regard electroconvulsive treatment (ECT) as a kind of medieval torture. It is, however, a very effective way of treating severe depression.

Psychiatrists at Jerusalem's Talbiyeh Mental Hospital are trying to change the image of this therapy and arouse public awareness of its often dramatic effects in improving the condition of patients.

Writing in *Harefuah*, the journal of the Israel Medical Association, Drs. R. Durst, Keren Labinsky-Rubin and Yigal Ginat note that in most modern countries, shock therapy is a privilege of well-off psychiatric patients.

Recent advances in ECT have made the treatment very safe, the authors maintain. Many antidepressant drugs cause serious side effects, but the only side effect attributable to ECT is occasional, temporary memory lapses.

Psychiatrists should not deprive their patients of ECT any more than a cardiologist should refuse to give a heart-attack victim an electric shock to get his heart restarted, they argue.

But an amendment to the 1959 law on psychiatric treatment passed by the Knesset two years ago allows the giving of ECT only if three doctors, including the medical director or his deputy, approve it: if the patient has undergone a medical checkup to determine whether ECT would harm him physically; and if the patient or his guardian has given written consent.

As a result of this last condition, the authors note that patients who need ECT are being deprived of it because they themselves or their guardians refuse it.

"We expect that in the future, psychiatric institutions will be sued for having failed to give ECT" because of the patient's or guardian's refusal, the authors warn. They suggest a change in the law that would set standards of patient incompetence and allow doctors to give ECT in certain emergencies, despite objections by the patient or guardian.

HOW TO FREE CHEMO DRUG FROM CHAINS OF IRON

A method of neutralizing the toxicity of a major group of chemotherapy drugs has been devised by Jerusalem doctors. A report on the development was the cover story in the prestigious *US Journal of Laboratory and Clinical Medicine*.

The journal's editors also wrote a laudatory editorial on the discovery.

Prof. Chaim Hershko, head of the internal medicine division at Shaare Zedek Hospital, and a Hebrew University team found a way to prevent the drug family antitumor from binding with iron in the body and producing oxygen-free radicals that damage the heart muscle.

This family of chemotherapy drugs are especially effective against certain cancers, but they haven't been used for treating cancer patients who also have a weak heart because of their toxic effects on the heart muscle.

Many leukemia patients are at high risk from complications involving a surplus of iron in the body, because they receive many blood transfusions.

They found that a drug called desferrioxamine, used for treating the blood disease thalassemia (in which patients have a surplus of iron), can protect the heart muscle of cancer patients from the dangerous effects of the chemotherapy drugs.

Desferrioxamine is a natural substance produced from mushrooms, and has no side effects.

So far, the researchers have proved the drug effective in laboratory animals; it will be used soon in clinical trials.

STOMACH DIGESTION

Why doesn't your stomach digest not only your dinner but also itself? Researchers at Yale University believe they have solved one of the remaining riddles of physiology.

Reporting in the journal *Nature*, a team led by Walter Boron explained that, in addition to its protective mucous lining, the stomach has a "built-in resistance" to acids in its cell membrane. This allows the stomach largely to resist the erosive force of its own juices.

Experimenting on rabbit stomachs, they found that cells deeper in the mucus glands block out ammonia and carbon dioxide (which help form acids and possibly other noxious agents), thus producing a protective barrier. Boron said this blocking action "may have evolved to protect these cells from the harsh environment of the gastric gland lumen [stomach], which contains high levels of acid."

Gastric ulcers are a common ailment whose exact causes remain a mystery.

Anatomy of the world's oldest skull

NEW WORLDS

JUDY SIEGEL-ITZKOVICH

AN Israeli has helped find the oldest human skull ever discovered - dating back three million years. The skull was found in a barren desert on the Ethiopia-Djibouti border.

The discovery was featured last month in a cover story of the prestigious British journal *Nature*. Prof. Yoel Rack of Tel Aviv University's Sackler School of Medicine was one of the authors of the article, along with Prof. William Kimball and Donald Johanson of the Institute for the Origin of Man in Berkeley, California.

The excavations began in the '70s after a geological survey found a large number of fossilized bones at the site. Because of war and famine, it was resumed only a few years ago.

Rack joined the team in 1990 as a consultant on anatomy. He says that in addition to the skull, some of the spinal and hand bones were also found.

Digging conditions were difficult. The bones were discovered on the site of a former lake believed to have dried up 2.5 million years ago. The team had to walk for kilometers along the walls of wadis in heat, reaching 50°C while looking for a promising excavation.

Rack says the skull looks like that of a large chimpanzee. It has space for a brain a third of the size of humans' today, and its jaws protrude like those of a chimp. The place where the skull meets the spinal column proves that the creature walked on two feet, Rack says, and that it was a *homo erectus*.

Dated in radiological tests as being 3 million years old, the creature links the chimpanzee and man in the evolutionary ladder and proves Darwin's theories, the TAU anatomist says.

Israel is highly regarded in Ethiopia, and Rack's presence elicited much help from the Ethiopian authorities. TAU's Prof. Zvi Yavezt established the history department at the University of Addis Ababa, and the previous director of the national museum there was one of his students.

SMART CARDS ON THE WAY Coin purses may become obsolete when a do-it-all credit card, which could pay for small items including candy sold by vending machines and fast-food burgers as well as phone calls, is being developed by Visa International.

It is joining with a group of nine other financial companies to develop the product, called the Electronic Purse, and hopes to test it by late 1995.

The "smart card" will contain a microchip. The user would "load" money onto the card before using it, probably

through a bank automatic-teller machine. The card could be loaded repeatedly.

Before the cards could be used widely, pay telephones, vending machines and toll booths would have to be fitted to process them. Visa will establish a separate consortium to work on developing equipment for the cards.

They could pose problems, however, as cards with microchips are easily damaged and cost anywhere from \$3 to \$8 apiece. That's much more expensive than prepaid cards such as Bezeq's Telecard. They would, however, be safer than holding cash.

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Anatomist Yoel Rack (right) of Tel Aviv University and Prof. William Kimball of the US, with an old friend.

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To humans, the noise would sound something like a bowling ball rolling down a lane, but whales and other marine mammals who use sonar to find their way could be frightened off their normal migratory route. A hearing will begin on the proposed project soon.

Responding to a wave of public criticism, scientists said last week that they will assist in completing an environmental assessment before starting the experiment.

The low rumbling sound would be broadcast at 195 decibels - some 10

million times as loud as the 120-decibel level known to disturb some whales. By comparison, humans can suffer ear damage from 120-decibel noises transmitted through the air.

Environmentalists argue that over long distances, the frequent loud sounds could disrupt the normal feeding and mating behaviors of dozens of marine mammal species, as well as disturb fish populations. But the Scripps scientists discount these fears and argue that the danger to the animals posed by global warming is greater than that posed by the noise.

The \$35-million experiment, based on the technique of acoustic thermometry, would measure the time it takes each broadcast to travel across the ocean. Because sound travels faster in warmer water, scientists could plot temperature changes in the ocean over a long period of time. The US Defense Department has promised to finance most of the cost.

From A to Z and beyond

ON LINE

DANIEL BAUM

I have often griped about the inability of the Hebrew version of Microsoft Windows to utilize speciality characters from other languages.

These include vowel letters with the acute and grave accents, the German umlauted vowels and a variety of more exotic characters, such as the Scandinavian crossed o-umlaut and a-bol (an "a" with a circle over it), a large variety of accented characters used in Eastern European languages and extra letters used in Icelandic to represent the th-sounds.

After several months of scouting around, I finally have some solutions to the problem. First, however, a few words on multilingual computing.

To write in any given language, Windows must be able to supply a character set and a keyboard configuration. In other words, the font must contain all the characters needed to write a certain language and the keyboard configuration must allow access to all the characters you require.

One way to do this is with "dead keys." If you want to write é, for instance, you first press the accent key, which prints the accent on the screen but does not move the cursor, then you press the "e." This combines the two and produces the compound character containing the accent and the letter.

Some specialized forms of writing, such as transliterated Sanskrit or the reconstructed "Proto-Indo-European" language, require very unusual combinations, such as a "k" with a grave accent or a "t" with a dot underneath. A sophisticated dead-key system can place any accent on any character, thereby allowing most of these combinations.

The keyboard layout mimics the traditional typewriter keyboard used in each country. Each allows access to a different set of characters, and also changes the positions of some letters. For instance, in France the QWERTY arrangement is replaced by AZERTY.

Some keyboard layouts conveniently allow one to use a wide variety of characters without learning an unfamiliar layout: the Dutch keyboard is a good example.

Other items also need different configurations, such as the date format and decimal point/comma (as in Norway, if you noticed the way the Norwegians said "five point six" - *fem komma seks* - during the Winter Olympics skating competition).

The latest version of Hebrew Windows, which is actually multilingual, allows different language modules to be added on, complete with different character sets, keyboard layouts, user interfaces and help systems.

The Hebrew version comes with English and Hebrew help systems, and allows menus in both languages. It also lets

one use the full range of international characters.

The flaw is that it is rather cumbersome to change keyboard layouts via the Windows setup program. You can access the extra characters, however, via the character map utility or by making a keyboard macro with the Macro Recorder.

There are two programs that specialize in multilingual word processing: Dagesh (or its international Accent sibling) and Gamma Universe, which comes from the same stable as the famous Multi Lingual Scholar, which previously was the standard multilingual program.

These give easy access to both character sets and keyboard layouts, and also to non-Latin languages such as Arabic, Greek and the Indian languages, each of which poses unique problems for a word processor.

Arabic and the Indian Devanagari alphabet require "context sensitive editing," which means that each letter has a different shape, depending on where it is in the word and which letter precedes it. Rather than have a separate keystroke for each shape, this is programmed into the editor, which changes the shape automatically. On a smaller scale, this is usable with the Hebrew final letters and the Greek final sigma.

Both are very strong at providing multilingual features, but they are lacking in standard word processing features, although Dagesh version 2 promises to rectify that.

Packaged with Gamma Universe (which is a very slow program lacking some important basic features) is a small utility called LanguageLink, which allows you to easily change the keyboard layout in any Windows program, thus giving access to a full variety of languages even under Hebrew Windows and in Hebrew Word. It even works with the Greek fonts supplied with Gamma Universe and Accent. This program is almost the ideal solution to the problem. It does not work under the multilingual Windows, for some reason, which is a pity.

The future holds what might be the definitive solution to the language problem. Unicode is a new character-set standard which is supposed to replace ASCII. Instead of the current 256 characters Unicode will allow over 65,000, enough to accommodate almost all of the world's languages.

Gamma Universe, in fact, already uses this system, as does Microsoft Windows NT.

If each character in the world has its standard position in the character set, it should be reasonably simple for software manufacturers to provide the relevant fonts and keyboard layouts for future operating systems, thereby automatically giving any future word processing programs multilingual capability.

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Jackson's values and Peres's

THAT the African-American leader and former presidential candidate Rev. Jesse Jackson is a dedicated promoter and supporter of Syrian dictator Hafez Assad does not reflect well on his values. This is not because Assad is one of today's two or three most murderous dictators in the world. After all, Jackson is not alone among Western politicians who care little about the tens of thousands of deaths Middle Eastern dictators inflict on their own people.

Nor is Jackson's admiration for Assad offensive only because a recent CIA report charged Syria with responsibility for the bombing of the Beirut marine barracks in 1983, in which 250 Americans lost their lives. In the skewed rationale of Assad fans, the Beirut incident was not an atrocity against peacekeepers, but an act of self-defense against an occupying power.

Even the Syrian involvement in the kidnapping and murder of US citizens in Lebanon - which Jackson used to blame on American support for Israel - does not unduly disturb ambitious American politicians in today's world. In fact, it is fashionable to say that these enormities belong to the past, and one must look to the future.

But Assad is not just another anti-Western dictator with a rich past. He and members of his closest circle are responsible for the deaths of an incalculable number of African-Americans: not only in the past, but today and every day. Jackson, who regularly mouths the standard platitudes about the drug scourge and the need to combat it, surely knows that Syria grows, processes, and exports 20 percent of the heroin sold on American city streets. Most of the victims of Syrian narcotics - and of endless drug-related killings - are African-Americans in America's black ghettos.

Jackson must have his reasons for acting as Assad's most enthusiastic promoter and advocate in the US. Perhaps he believes that by furthering Arab interests in America he can obtain the support of the Islamic world and a growing number of Arab Americans for his faltering political career. And perhaps Jackson, ignored by the Clinton administration and treated as a relic of the politics of the 1960s and 1970s, hopes to play a role in the peace process and thus improve his tired image.

But he has not been satisfied with espousing the Arab cause. To ingratiate himself with Moslems, he has refused to disavow one of the most virulent antisemites in the US - "Nation of Islam" leader Louis Farrakhan - who re-

cently endorsed the "essential truths" of an antisemitic tirade delivered by his spokesman, Khalid Muhammad. It is perhaps typical of the Farrakhan-Jackson type of African-American leadership that it would rather propagate ugly, slanderous fictions about alleged Jewish involvement in the 19th century slave trade than confront the leading purveyors of death to American blacks today.

It is, then, hardly surprising Jackson has chosen to associate himself with Hamas, an organization sponsored and encouraged by Syria and Iran. To ensure there would be no mistaking which sovereignty he recognizes in Jerusalem and the "occupied territories," he traveled from Jerusalem to Hebron in a bus hoisting the PLO flag, and refused an army escort. He then prayed in Hebron with Hamas leaders and appealed for peace and the partitioning of the land between the two peoples.

The response of Hebron's Arabs may not have been what he expected: they started a riot, in which an Israeli officer was badly hurt, while Jackson sought shelter in the bus. A call for peace by a Christian American clergyman imitating the gestures of Moslem prayer may play well on the world media. But in this country, the appearance of an American politician traveling under a PLO flag, holding hands and praying with Hamas terrorists, is an outright incitement to violence.

Foreign Minister Shimon Peres has seen fit not only to meet with Jackson, which he might have had to do, but to entertain him at an official dinner. His reasons for this gesture are unclear. Jackson is not only a supporter of Assad and Yasser Arafat. He ostentatiously and demonstratively embraces Hamas, an organization Peres himself says is "the enemy and murderer of peace."

One can only wonder what Peres would do if, say, a prominent American conservative visiting this country embraced the leaders of Kach. (Not that the comparison is precise. For all the revolting political philosophy of the Kahanists, and the justified need to outlaw them, they certainly cannot be compared with Hamas. The Hamas covenant calls for the killing of every Israeli, and the organization's military arm has carried out numerous indiscriminate killings of innocent men, women, and children, both Jewish and Arab.)

It is safe to assume that Peres would have shunned such a visitor with contempt. That he has chosen to give Jackson a red-carpet reception rather than, at most, a perfunctory greeting, is a sad commentary indeed on Peres's own values.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

MIRROR IMAGE

Sir, - Baruch Goldstein's murder of 29 Arab worshippers in Hebron has renewed characterizations of the Kach party as mirroring various murderous Arab groups. I submit that the most pertinent "mirror" of Kach on the political scene is Israel's Meretz party and its Laborite fellow travelers such as Yossi Beilin. Kach's followers embrace the doctrine that, despite demographic realities, only Jews have legitimate rights and claims to the territories and Arabs ought to be expelled. Meretz followers embrace the mirroring doctrine that only the Palestinian Arabs have legitimate rights and claims and the Jews ought to be expelled, despite a millennia-old Jewish presence that ended only with the ethnic cleansing of all Jews from the territories in 1948, despite claims of history and rights to settlement sanctioned by the League of Nations Mandate and reaffirmed in Article 80 of the UN charter, despite claims based on rights to security acknowledged by UN Resolution 242.

Kach followers interpret every Arab attack on Jews as further

evidence that coexistence in the territories is impossible and that the Arabs must be forced to leave. They see attacks by Jews on Arabs as a reaction to Arab provocations resolvable only by transfer. Meretz followers, from their looking-glass perspective, interpret every Arab attack as further evidence that the Arabs will never be reconciled to a Jewish presence in the territories and that the Jews must be forced to leave and Israel must withdraw behind the pre-1967 lines. Meretz, of course, chooses to comprehend attacks by Jews on Arabs as additional proof that all Jews should be forced out of the territories.

Kach's stance, by insisting coexistence is impossible and conflict inevitable, implicitly encourages Jewish violence against Arabs. Meretz's stance, by likewise insisting that the ongoing presence of both populations is impossible and by choosing to embrace Arab attacks as support for Jewish expulsion, implicitly sanctions further Arab violence against Jews.

KENNETH LEVIN
Boston, Mass.

VIRTUAL REALITY

Sir, - I was amused by Jon Simons's description (Op-ed, March 29) of the settlers' supposed world of "virtual reality." His image of the settlers is a true "alternate reality," internally self-consistent and requiring only an initial "suspension of disbelief" to seem logical to the reader. Of course, it is only a work of fiction, not to be confused with objective truth. I am one of the more "realistic" writers in *Nekuda* whom Simons mentions in his article, and I could detect no point at which Simons's "virtual" frame of referenced touches the one I use in day-to-day life.

Simons apparently plays another virtual-reality game, called "peace." In it, the Palestinians are genuinely committed to coexistence, even though both Hamas and the Fatah have declared a return to armed struggle; Arafat's word is his bond; and the perjured politicians of Labor (especially Mr. Rabin himself) and Shas genuinely represent a majority of the

people. Playing this game requires "suspension of disbelief" on a heroic scale that most people are incapable of attaining. I am not sure whether Dr. Simons ought to be congratulated for his achievement.

One small point: The Jewish communities in Judea, Samaria and Gaza do not occupy anybody. Israeli soldiers in Palestinian population centers do. The former have rights the Israeli government is required to respect. But this is to intrude harsh facts into a subjective realm of artistic creativity.

YITZHAK KLEIN
Ma'aleh Adumim.

SPLENDID ANALYSIS

Sir, - Many thanks to Yosef Goel for his splendid analysis of March 25. "A massacre's immoral message."

Y. BELOTSEVSKY
Tel Aviv.

ASHAMED

Sir, - On February 25, a fanatic named Baruch Goldstein robbed 29 Arab citizens of Hebron of their right to live. He also robbed all Jews of something special: their belief in the righteousness and righteousness of their ways; their belief in law and humanity, over anarchy and terrorism.

Indeed, it was not only Dr. Goldstein who stole this feeling of Jewishness that we all treasure. It was also actions of the 1,000 or so mourners who called Dr. Goldstein a martyr, and the words of the so-called rabbi who said that 1 million Arab lives are not worth one fingernail of a Jew, that for the first time made me ashamed to be known as a Jew. The deeds of a madman, indeed a terrorist, for that is what Mr. Goldstein's act declared him to be, are contemptible; the deeds of the so-called ultra-rightist Jews of Hebron, are an act of treachery. The good names of the sages, the real rabbis treasured by Judaism, Akiva, Hillel, the Ba'al Shem Tov, are besmirched and soiled by the words of the so-called rabbi in Hebron.

GENE MEIERAN
Phoenix, Arizona.

CIVIL RIGHTS

Sir, - While we were flattered by the praise ACRI received in your editorial of March 21, some of your comments were highly misleading. The Association for Civil Rights in Israel has never been unwilling to act on complaints by Israeli Jews.

Over 70 percent of ACRI's work deals with infringements of human and civil rights within the State of Israel, covering a wide range of issues. Most of these cases involve Israeli Jews and address issues such as freedom of religion, patients' rights, gender and age discrimination, police brutality, prison conditions and freedom of speech.

Moreover, ACRI has acted in the past on complaints brought by Kach members, and our recent actions in this regard are in no way a change of policy.

Yael Gilboa
Spokesperson,
ACRI
Jerusalem.



Retreat into irrelevance

ISI LEIBLER

ANY religious Zionist who identifies with the proud traditions of the founders of Mizrahi, the forerunners of the National Religious Party, must be in a state of shock. Many are in a state of near-despair.

The reason is that over the years, the NRP has transformed itself from a religious centrist party into a messianic one-dimensional party committed exclusively to a hardline settlement ideology. It has thus marginalized itself from the political mainstream and effectively disenfranchised and stranded hundreds of thousands of moderate religious Zionists in Israel and in the Diaspora who no longer have a voice.

And, tragically, as the NRP has radicalized, so has Israel's society polarized.

At stake in this decline of a once-vibrant movement is more than just the eventual passing of another political party from the Israeli scene. For if the malaise is not confronted and dramatically reversed, there could be dire consequences for the unity of religious and secular Jews in Israel and the Diaspora.

It is because of this potentially serious universal impact of the NRP's retreat into irrelevance that, as a religious Zionist of the Diaspora, I feel I have to speak up. I am convinced that I represent the silent majority of traditional religious Zionists who yearn for the revival of Mizrahi's middle way, when I appeal to the moderate NRP leaders: Find a way to rejoin the broad mainstream of Jewish political life.

Consider but three elements of the concerned religious Zionist's trauma. Each has been exacerbated by the NRP's abdication of its historic role as bridge-builder between religious and secular Jews in favor of its more recent one of upholding, actively or by default, triumphalism and messianism.

First, hauntingly, there is the ambivalent response in the face of evil. Of course, the NRP is not responsible for the Hebron massacre. And true, the murderer from Kiryat Arba may have originally come from Brooklyn.

But he and his supporters were

nurtured in Israel's religious society, a place where many an NRP supporter stood by and did not sufficiently denounce the hatred and lawlessness of his Kach neighbors.

In Israel and in the Diaspora, many religious Zionist activists condemned the Hebron massacre. But many others remained silent.

The silent majority of traditional religious Zionists yearn for the revival of the NRP's middle way

More disturbingly, some in Israel and in the Diaspora berated Israel's elected leaders as traitors and quislings. To our shame we have witnessed, for the first time, passionate Zionists wearing the knitted kippa and publicly defaming the leaders of the Jewish state.

Only in an environment where the NRP has lost its moral authority, where its voice of principle in the political debate has been so muted as to be virtually inaudible, could such outrages have happened.

A SECOND tragedy looms over the fate of the settlers. Not only do they face an uncertain future; the majority of them, who are not extremists, have been let down by an NRP seemingly incapable of presenting their case in a reasoned and undistorted way, especially where it counts - in the cabinet.

Just when the settlers' destiny hangs in the balance, the NRP is out of government and unable to promote, at the highest level, the necessary dialogue which alone could avert confrontation.

The extent of this problem has been evident from Prime Minister Rabin's own generalizations about the settlers as extremists. Such im-

agery is deeply troubling. The overwhelming majority of idealistic religious settlers are not the monolithic bunch of zealous gun-toting cowboys so often portrayed in Israeli media stereotypes. It is sad that the religious Zionist elite who, less than three decades ago, were hailed as the new pioneers, are today denigrated en masse.

They love Eretz Yisrael and - yes - they cherish democracy. But who speaks for them?

Thirdly, an irony: Just when Mizrahi should be at the forefront of Israel-Diaspora relations, helping to halt the Diaspora's disintegration and corrosive assimilation, it is an offstage minor player.

Is it too late for the NRP to return to its roots? I believe it can still do so. But only if it is willing to abandon the radical theology which has captured the movement and, in some cases, led religious Zionists to challenge the rule of law in the name of a "higher law" which they claim overrides democracy.

At the same time, the NRP must recognize that out of government - it is effectively, moribund. In the cabinet, however, it could once again seize the high moral ground between the extremes of haredi ghettoism and secular Canaanism and return to its historic bridge-building ideology.

It could help fight stereotypes of religious Zionists and settlers and actively pursue the peace process, while helping to restrain those who are already prepared to give up too much - even retreat to the 1967 borders.

Most important of all, a National Religious Party presence in the cabinet could avert the ultimate nightmare: violence between Jew and Jew as the peace process inevitably moves forward.

For this alone, National Religious Party leaders should look deeply into their souls.

The writer is co-chairman of the governing board of the World Jewish Congress and president of the Executive Council of Australian Jewry. He is author of *Jewish Religious Extremism - A Threat to the Future of the Jewish People*.

PLO coin: a security threat

JASON H. ELBAUM

IT would be a mistake for Israel's economic negotiators to accept the PLO's demand for an independent Palestinian currency.

Currency affects more than sovereignty. Newly independent states in Europe, Africa and Latin America have all fallen victim to an economic malady which, if it infects the PLO governing authority, could threaten Israel's security. It is a danger Israel knows well: hyperinflation.

The wise economic path for a newly independent (or autonomous) entity might include a strong private enterprise sector, a stable currency, and a separation between politics and economic decision making. Yet this is not very attractive to political leaders.

Heavy government economic intervention is much more tempting than letting the invisible hand work. The free market works change now. After finally achieving independence, citizens expect their welfare to improve substantially, and quickly.

More important, the invisible hand isn't up for reelection. Politicians would rather spread government benefits as widely as possible, emblazoning their names on new construction projects, cultural subsidies and educational programs.

Rather than letting people lose their jobs, money-losing firms are bailed out by a quick infusion of funds - from the government. Politicians invent new government handouts and make people dependent on state support, hoping citi-

zens will credit the government for their welfare.

Expanding the state budget enhances not only politicians' personal power but also, by creating government jobs, their ability to repay their supporters.

Israel could fall victim to a malady it knows well: hyperinflation

THE PROBLEM is financing all this spending. And the option new states usually go for is printing money. Conveniently, this is the only resource that can be created by government fiat.

As inflation increases, people notice the rising prices, but few link that to the government, at least for a while. Like an invisible tax, state coffers grow as the value of money erodes, transferring individuals' savings and income to the government.

But indifference gives way to indignation as purchasing power falls, and public pressure brings on inflation-indexing of salaries. This strains the state budget further, forcing more money-creation in a hyperinflationary spiral.

Monetary stability reflects on the stability of the state. Insecure about the future value of their

money, people hoard foreign currency and physical assets, refrain from long-term investments and in general act against the interests of the national economy. The uncertain atmosphere under hyperinflation strengthens political opposition and fuels extremism, as it did in Russia's recent elections.

If the PLO issues an independent currency, circumstances are ripe for the above scenario. Hyperinflation will likely foster increasing disillusionment with Yasser Arafat and Fatah, boosting support for Hamas and the other rejectionist movements.

Why would the PLO embark on such a self-destructive course? For the same reason so many other states have, most recently Russia and Ukraine. Short-term political interests appear to diverge from long-term interests, and policies intended to shore up Fatah's power base may lead to its downfall.

This is especially true in the case of Arafat, who consistently refuses to listen to the trained economists in PLO ranks, preferring to control PLO finances himself.

Foreign governments that have pledged aid to the PLO are refusing to release the money, fearing it will go to political cronies rather than economic development.

Though it is tempting for Israel's negotiators to draw a line between security issues and mere symbols, in the case of currency the two are inextricably intertwined.

The writer is a Jerusalem-based freelancer.

Profit motive

JEFFREY KLEIN
MICHAEL CASTLEMAN

NEWS stories published recently have given women worried about breast cancer three new reasons to feel nervous.

Revelations of research fraud, "discrepancies" and an ensuing cover-up have cast doubts on a study concluding that lumpectomy is as effective as radical mastectomy in the treatment of early-stage breast tumors.

Another report revealed that the breast cancer treatment drug tamoxifen causes three times as many uterine cancers as researchers had previously suspected.

Finally, five female US senators blasted the National Cancer Institute's decision to stop recommending screening mammograms to women under age 50.

These three developments have left millions of women thoroughly confused about what's best for their health.

Regarding lumpectomy, the relatively small amount of discovered fraud shouldn't affect the study's conclusion, that this procedure with radiation has a survival rate as good as mastectomy. Obviously, data falsifiers should be punished.

The other stories raise warning flags about the cancer establish-

Those supposedly working to heal women may be harming them

ment's willingness to endanger women. First, mammography:

It's one thing to irradiate cancerous breast tissue to treat the disease, another to do so in the name of early detection. Health physicists generally agree that there is no safe level of radiation, and that even today's low-dose screening mammograms pose some cancer risk. In women over 50, available studies show that the benefit clearly outweighs the hazard, but in younger women, the situation is less clear.

It may be that screening mammograms for asymptomatic women under 50 should go the way of the periodic chest X-ray, once touted for early detection of lung cancer.

THE TAMOXIFEN revelation raises equally disturbing questions.

Researchers know that the drug helps prevent the recurrence of breast cancer in women who have been treated for the disease. But they are now testing the drug on women who have never had breast cancer but are considered "at high risk" for the disease, to determine whether it works for prevention.

Researchers have stopped enrolling new participants. But they continue to give a potentially hazardous drug to about 10,000 women already in the study.

Both tamoxifen and mammography spring from a research mind-set that favors high-tech treatment. Both were developed by wealthy industries that have close ties to the major cancer organizations and help finance most public awareness campaigns. In fact, the cancer institute's initial support of screening mammography for premenopausal women may fundamentally have been driven by an oversupply of mammography machines.

The processes that drive medical research toward expensive treatments also turn it away from preventive measures that do not hold the promise of corporate profit.

For example, several recent studies suggest that the organochlorine family of chemicals (among them the pesticide DDT and the industrial pollutants dioxin and the PCBs) may contribute to breast cancer. Yet the relationship between these environmental toxins and breast cancer continues to receive scant attention from the research community.

Tending toward unquestioning belief in the efficacy of high-tech cancer treatment, many industry and government researchers suddenly turn skeptical when presented with evidence of the environmental causes of cancer. This is why \$68 million of US public money is being spent to determine whether tamoxifen may prevent breast cancer, while only a small fraction of that amount is directed to research analyzing environmental clues.

Industry is leading us down a self-serving road in environmental and medical research. The research community needs to gain some distance from corporations that profit from the cancer business and those that produce environmental toxins. Often they are the very same corporations.

Jeffrey Klein is editor-in-chief and Michael Castleman medical investigative reporter for *Mother Jones* magazine. Both men's wives are breast cancer survivors. (Los Angeles Times)

APRIL 10, 1994

Moshe Halbertal

SPEAK MEMORY

The Israelis and the Holocaust

Now more than ever, half a century away from the terrible events, and in radically different conditions of power and independence, the memory of the destruction of European Jewry has become a major factor in the shaping of Israeli identity. The changing ways in which the catastrophe is commemorated and narrated in Israel express the highly ambivalent attitude of Zionism to its roots in exile, and to the Jewish experience of exile. The classical Zionist hope to "normalize" the relationship of the Jews to the world, to transform Jews into a nation among the nations, is still cruelly defied by the overwhelming presence of the Holocaust.

The story begins with silence. Immediately after the war, and during the '50s, there was no effort to organize a collective form of memory. The silence of Israelis and survivors in Israel should not be confused, of course, with forgetfulness. Forgetfulness was impossible. The silence, rather, was a form of response. The reasons for it had to do with the complicated relations of the 400,000 Israelis, who were born in Palestine or came there before the war, with the Jewish experience of exile, and with the 200,000 survivors of the near-extirpation who reached Israel's shores. Israelis furiously rejected the diaspora past, which impeded the creation of a "new Jew," a Jew who would never again be led to his or her death without resistance or (in the particularly brutal cliché of the time) "like a lamb to slaughter."

"These feelings of rejection were especially strong among the second or third generation of Israelis or Palestine-born Jews. They no longer had direct ties to Europe. 'Our children,' wrote an educator in Palestine in a magazine for teachers, 'read and hear much about the destruction of the exile, about the atrocities committed against our brothers and the suffering of the Jews under occupation, yet their hearts are hard and uncaring about it all.' This hardness of heart, moreover, was not a source of shame: 'Our youth are proud and upright in stance and spirit. They believe in their strength and know its value. They love freedom, desire space and liberty and will not tolerate humiliation or

repression." Survivors were looked upon as evidence of a disgraceful and disturbing past, and as raw material to be reshaped by the new national present, transformed from passive victims into self-reliant pioneers. Haim Nachman Bialik, Israel's national poet, had already expressed the canonical nationalist response in a poem about the victims of an earlier pogrom: "They fled like mice, hid like bugs and died like dogs over there where found."

It is important to understand, however, that the silence was also self-imposed by the survivors themselves. The memory was not only unbearable, it was also ineffable. Silence punctuated by sighs was the survivor's only medium of expression. Anyway, when they wanted to talk, nobody would listen. Their survival was looked upon almost as suspect. How could they have come away from concentration camps without somehow collaborating, or at least behaving ruthlessly?

Beneath the ideological rejection of the diaspora, moreover, was a layer of local guilt, and it, too, played a significant role in the repression of the Holocaust in the '50s. Where was the Yishuv, the pre-state Jewish community of Palestine, when millions of Jews were massacred in Europe? Israelis did not want to be reminded of their failure to have done more, of their absorption in themselves and their cause, not least because they insisted that their self-absorption was a consequence of their self-reliance.

Could the Yishuv have done more? The Israeli historian Dina Porat concluded in an important study (which appeared in English a few years ago in an abridged version called *The Blue and Yellow Stars of David*, published by Harvard University Press) that 400,000 Jews cut off from Europe in a hostile Levantine environment were about as helpless as their brethren in Europe. Rommel was advancing on the North African front,

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there was imminent danger to the Yishuv and nobody in Palestine at the time had any illusion that the few armed forces of the Jewish community could stop the Germans. In one of the plans that was prepared in anticipation of a Nazi conquest of Palestine, all the fighting forces of the Yishuv would gather on Mount Carmel to fight to the death, making the mountain a modern Masada. Other methods of saving European Jews, such as trading supplies to the German army for Jews, were never seriously considered, not least because their implementation depended on the Allies' concern for European Jewry, a group whose fate was a low priority in the war effort.

Porat's conclusion is very reasonable. The Yishuv did more or less what it could do. It was strong enough to secure its own survival, but it was not very strong. (In the War of Independence in 1948, three years after the Holocaust, the Yishuv lost 6,000 soldiers, that is to say, 1 percent of its population.) Still, there is another troubling matter raised by Tom Segev's book, *The Seventh Million: The Israelis and the Holocaust*. When the news concerning the annihilation of Jewish communities in Europe spread to Palestine, life did not seem to change its regular course. The cafes of Tel Aviv were packed as usual, and the daily newspapers began after a while to bury news from Europe between sports stories or reports of political infighting at the Jewish Agency. When asked by the poet and journalist Haim Gouri what would have happened had the Yishuv

dispatched 500 paratroopers to the ghetto, Yitzhak Zuckerman, one of the leaders of the revolt in the Warsaw Ghetto, answered: "490 would have been killed and the ten remaining would have been an additional burden on the ghetto." This, of course, did not absolve the Yishuv. "They did not need 500 paratroopers," explained Gouri, "they needed only one man who would bring them a word of goodwill from the land of Israel, just one man. And he did not come." The trapped Jew of the ghetto did not expect the Yishuv to save him from hell; he expected the Yishuv merely to make him feel less lonely there. And that it did not do.

Might it be that the Yishuv was ideologically and psychologically complicit with the catastrophe, since so much of Zionism was founded on the certainty that the Jews had no future in Europe, that the emancipation of the Jews would fail, that the only solution to European anti-Semitism was a sovereign Jewish state? It was almost as if Zionism had accepted the end of European Jewry before it happened. Segev eloquently describes this mood: "It was the inclination to ease the murder of the Jews out of the present into the past — and so to move beyond it." David Ben-Gurion had read *Mein Kampf* before the war and predicted a disaster. It was clear to him that the diaspora was doomed. But the question that exercised him was whether anything or anybody would remain to help in the effort to establish the independent Jewish state.

Segev adduces a painful argument in the Rescue Committee of the Jewish Agency in 1943, when the Nazi death machine was operating at full power. Rabbi Yitzhak Itshak Meir Levin, a leader of the ultra-Orthodox Agudat Yisrael, argued: "Take the Jewish National Fund Money.... Won't you halt the work in Palestine during such a period, when they are murdering and slaughtering Jews by the hundreds of thousands, even millions? Don't establish new settlements: take the money for those needs. To which Yitzhak Gruenbaum, the head of this committee and a former leader of Zionist Polish Jewry replied: "I think it necessary to state here — Zionism is above everything." Another committee member, Yosef Sprinzak, objected: "What do we need at this moment? Not a Zionist program but something very simple: a varm Yiddish hartz (in Yiddish, "a varm Yiddish heart..."). To which Gruenbaum, who had a son somewhere in Poland who later died in Auschwitz, replied: "They will say that I am anti-Semitic, that I don't want to save the exile, that I don't have a varm Yiddish hartz... Let them say what they want. I will not demand that the Jewish Agency allocate a sum of 300,000 or 100,000 pounds sterling to help European Jewry. And I think that whoever demands such things is performing an anti-Zionist act."

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Alan Dershowitz

The Continuing Threat of Terrorism

It takes an occasional trip abroad for an American to understand that, despite the handshake between Yitzhak Rabin and Yasir Arafat, the threat of terrorism against Jewish civilian targets is still very much alive around much of the world.

I was on a brief trip to Paris during which I visited a large synagogue. It was the night of Simchat Torah, a joyous holiday in which Jews throughout the world celebrate the annual completion of the weekly Bible reading cycle. It is a children's holiday, with singing, dancing, flags and candy. I was anxious to join the celebration at Des Temple de Tournelles.

It was not difficult to locate the synagogue — or any other synagogue in Paris. Just look for a large contingent of heavily armed police. As I entered the synagogue, I was stopped by two plain-clothed security officials who interrogated me as to the purpose of my visit. I was then thoroughly searched from head to toe. Every item in my pockets was removed. My body was frisked. My shoes were felt. Even my necktie was fingered to see whether I was

hiding plastic explosives. (In contrast, there was no visible security when I visited Notre Dame a few days later.)

PERSPECTIVE

Editor
Guy Bernfeld

My visit to the Parisian synagogue was a scary



experience. and I asked the guards whether there were any specific threats that night. "No," he assured me. This is the routine precaution taken every day at every synagogue. "Synagogues are their favorite target," he told me, "especially when there are many children and women attending."

He reminded me of the previous attack against a large synagogue in Paris, as well as those in Rome and Istanbul. I asked the guard why security had not eased since the "handshake," and he replied that the threat of terrorism had not diminished. Perhaps, he suggested, it had even increased. He told me that radical Palestinian groups opposed to the peace process were planning terrorist attacks against Jewish civilian targets both inside and outside of Israel. The guard added that there was no real deterrent to terrorism, and that, if any-

thing, the handshake in Washington might well serve as a stimulus to continuing terrorism. He explained that potential terrorists may well have seen Arafat's acceptance by President Clinton as a message that past terrorism will quickly be forgiven and forgotten in the name of future peace.

The views expressed by this experienced guard — indeed the continuing fear of terrorism of Jewish communities around the world — confirm what I have long believed: namely, that recent historical events have made it tragically clear that terrorism works, and that the most extreme forms of terrorism directed against innocent civilian targets work more effectively than the less extreme forms of terrorism directed against military and political targets. The assumption in the international community seems to be that any aggrieved group who

would randomly kill innocent children — as the PLO did at Maalot and at numerous airports and synagogues — must have an extremely just cause. On the other hand, an aggrieved group that would not resort to killing children — such as the Kurds — must be less deserving of international sympathy.

Perhaps the single largest contributor to this perverse approach to reward and punishment has been the United Nations, which honored Yasir Arafat while he was still actively engaged in hands-on control and planning of terrorism directed against civilian targets. At least President Clinton waited until Arafat renounced terrorism and agreed to a peace process. He forgave the past in the interests of the future. The U.N., on the other hand, legitimated ongoing terrorism by welcoming Arafat — holster at his side — to the podium of the General Assembly just seven months after the Maalot attack and just two months before the PLO attack on an El Al plane at Orly Airport in Paris.

Why, then, should not the most radical elements within other aggrieved groups — ranging from the provisional wing of the Irish Republican Army to the Shining Path guerrillas — understand this historical lesson as an international green light encouraging even more violent forms of terrorism. Those aggrieved groups who have not resorted to widespread terrorism have gotten nowhere in their demands for international recognition. The perverse lesson is all too clear. Terrorism works — use it early and often!

[I was then] safely back home, reading about the trial of those accused of blowing up the World Trade Center. How safe are we really? Will we all eventually pay the price for the United Nations' legitimization of terrorism? Once terrorism begins in earnest in this country, it may have a profound impact on the very character of our daily life. My visit to Paris made that all too clear.

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[This piece was written prior to the April 6 car bomb attack in Afula - ed.]

PERSPECTIVE

Editor
Bernfeld

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Cohen and
Solomon

A specter is haunting America - the specter of too much democracy.

That's a worry for David Broder, the man widely hailed as this nation's dean of political reporting.

"Personally, I'd happily go back to the older system where we had four or five primaries" to select presidential nominees, Broder told an audience at the Chautauqua Institution near Jamestown, New York. In other words, citizens in 90 percent of the states couldn't go to the polls to help select a party's nominee for president.

"Most of what political parties can learn from primaries they can learn in four or five," Broder added, "and after that it becomes kind of an empty exercise, both for the candidates and for the voters, and for the press I have to say."

Broder's solution? Give more of a role to entrenched party leaders.

"What's missing," he lamented, "is the kind of judgment that politicians, serious professional politicians, apply to each other. We would have a better presidential selection system. I think, if we factored in more of that peer group evaluation into our system." David Broder's lecture - on "Journalism, Politics, and the Public" - was delivered at Chautauqua last August, but his remarks are reaching a national audience only this month (March), via public radio stations. His eagerness to give more leverage to "professional politicians" might surprise people familiar with Broder's lofty reputation.

Broder writes a syndicated column and news articles on politics for *The Washington Post*. Hundreds of other newspapers publish his writings. And he often appears on network TV programs such as CNN's "Inside Politics" and NBC's "Meet the Press."

A computer analysis of news coverage during the 1992 campaign tallied Broder as the most-mentioned print media pundit in the country. In recent years, Broder has faulted other journalists for chummy ties with politicians. And he denounces "insider" colleagues for moving from media careers to politics and vice versa. In effect, Broder maintains that journalists should not stray from the elite corridors of their own profession.

What he leaves unsaid is that - when it comes to political assumptions and corporate alignments - those media corridors usually run parallel to the halls of government power. As a bellwether of the "punditocracy," for example, Broder has long urged the Democratic Party to resist activist constituencies and their reform agendas. Broder's outlook is reminiscent of the attitude of Harvard



Too Much Democracy

political scientist Samuel Huntington, who co-authored a major report - "The Governability of Democracies" - for the Trilateral Commission, a group that unites powerful elites of the United States, Europe and Japan. The 1975 report voiced concern about "a dramatic upsurge of democratic fervor in America" during the previous decade. It warned about ominous signs of "a reassertion of equality as a goal in social, economic and political life."

Huntington identified a big problem - what he called "an excess of democracy." The solution, he wrote, would be "desirable limits to the extension of political democracy."

For Huntington, who served as an adviser to the White House during the Vietnam War, a far more preferable situation existed at mid-century - when "Truman had been able to govern the country with the cooperation of a relatively small number of Wall Street lawyers and bankers."

David Broder also harkens back to earlier times, when party bosses had more control over the presidential nominating process. However, given "the temper of the American people these days," Broder concedes, such a rollback is not an option.

Ironically, the current nomination process that Broder considers too voter-influenced is far from democratic. The national media and party hierarchies dominate, elevating the "serious" contenders - and often designating the "front runner" - before a single vote is cast in any state primary or

caucus. It's a setup that greatly aided Bill Clinton's quest for the Democratic nomination in 1992.

Broder is part of a grand tradition in American punditry, expressing alarm that democratic notions might go too far. He has walked a journalistic path in the footsteps of acclaimed columnist Walter Lippmann, whose writings carried great prestige from the 1920s through the 1960s.

Lippmann believed that "the public must be put in its place" to enable society to "live free of the trampling and the roar of a bewildered herd." He contended that "the common interests very largely elude public opinion entirely, and can be managed only by a specialized class whose personal interests reach beyond the locality..." In short, Lippmann saw the media's proper role as contributing to "the manufacture of consent."

Like Lippmann before him, Broder gained an exalted reputation as a consummate journalist and commentator, spitting up old-fashioned elitism with liberal flourishes. When accepting an award for lifetime service to journalism at the National Press Club in 1988, David Broder exclaimed: "I can't for the life of me fathom why any journalists would want to become insiders, when it's so much fun being outsiders - irreverent, inquisitive, incorrigibly independent outsiders, thumbing our nose at authority and going our own way."

An audience of insiders applauded his remarks.
Jeff Cohen and Norman Solomon
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Evans and Novak

Hardening on Russia

Washington - Ending his flawed Russia-first policy, President Clinton is sending a warning to Moscow to keep its design for empire under tight control - a shift unveiled at an unusual State Department luncheon.

The hosts were Deputy Secretary of State Strobe Talbott, eminent Friend of Bill and the president's chief Russian expert, and Undersecretary Peter Tarnoff, the department's top diplomatic aide. Their guests were ambassadors from Eastern Europe and the Baltic states.

Talbott departed early, leaving it to Tarnoff to make a remarkable acknowledgment to the diplomats. Tarnoff told them that the United States had not been paying enough attention to nations bordering Russia or near it. This was going to change, he said, because countries that fear Russian expansionism have "legitimate concerns" the United States and the West cannot and will not ignore.

Such talk represents an altered administration mind-set. Talbott was the architect of the Russia-first policy, which fit well with Clinton's long-held conviction that the Soviet Union should not be an enemy. Clinton was never a Cold Warrior. The first president too young to serve in World War II, he ducked the Vietnam draft and nurtured a yuppie-generation view of Russia as a fascinating country with a special appeal for America.

The switch came only recently, but with a rush - as James Steinberg, Talbott's man running policy planning at State, finished a paper outlining the new posture. It was given momentum by Secretary of State Warren Christopher, infuriated by unhelpful Russian meddling in the Israel-PLO situation.

A worried British Prime Minister John Major, during his overnight White House visit on February 28, expressed growing British concern over reductions in the U.S. defense budget and gently questioned the "anything you say" signals being sent to Moscow by Clinton advisers. Not soon again will Christopher say as he did in January that "we have not decided whether [defending Eastern Europe states] is in our national interest."

More persistently than Major, German Chancellor Helmut Kohl has been pressing Clinton to lift his ban on Poland's entry into NATO. Germany has informed the United States it would gladly split with Washington the \$40 million to \$50 million that Poland would need for troop training and weapons to join the Partnership for Peace (PFP).

PFP is a weak alternative to the full membership in NATO sought by former Soviet satellites. Expanding NATO was ruled out by Clinton because of strong opposition by the Russian government, but now, the president is taking another look at possibilities for Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic to join NATO. These vulnerable states know every twist and turn in the historical record of Russian expansion and are begging for the protection of a hard-nosed security system - that is, NATO.

Clinton, who in his first year did not hold a single National Security Council meeting on Russia, is now personally monitoring Russia's increasing military and economic pressure on sovereign states that were part of the former Soviet Union. He says privately that if this behavior stretches over the border into Eastern Europe, the United States will change its mind overnight about NATO.

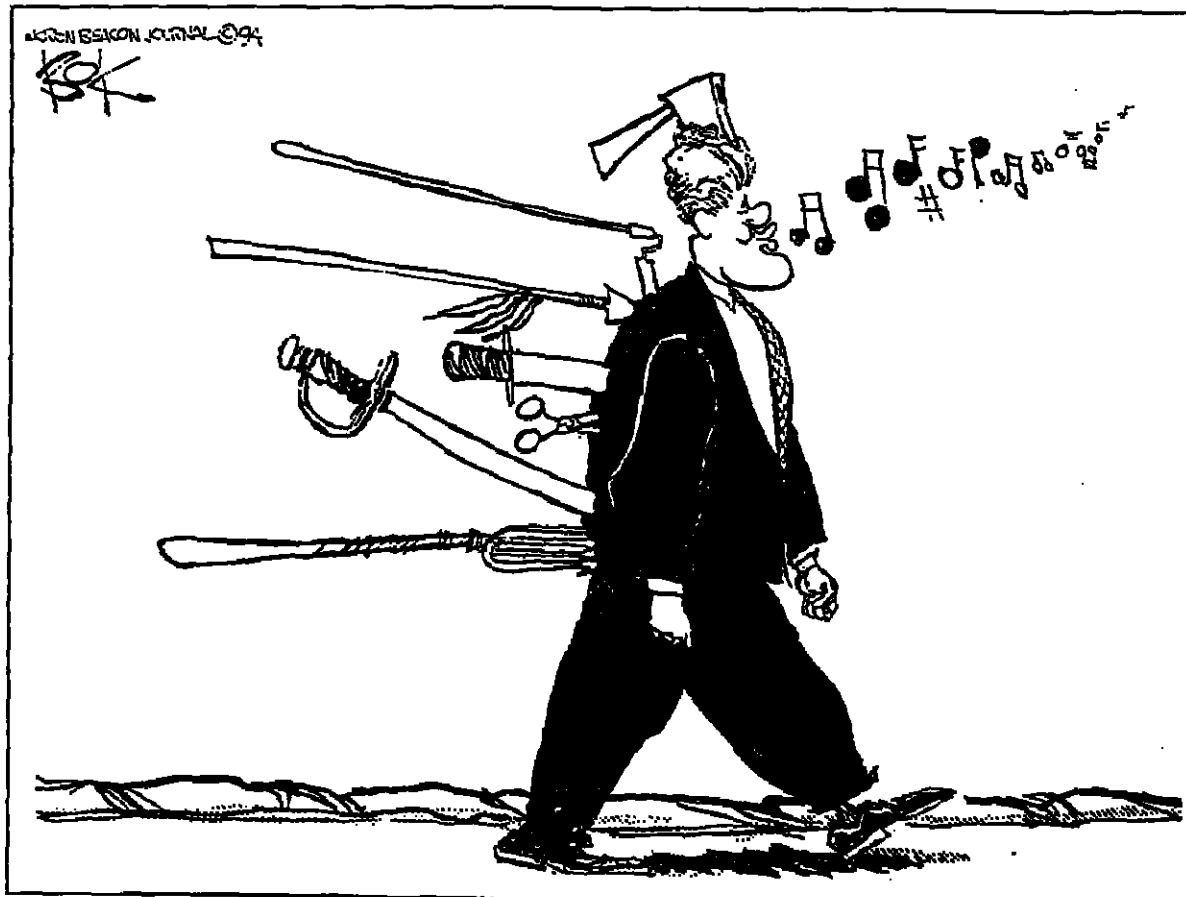
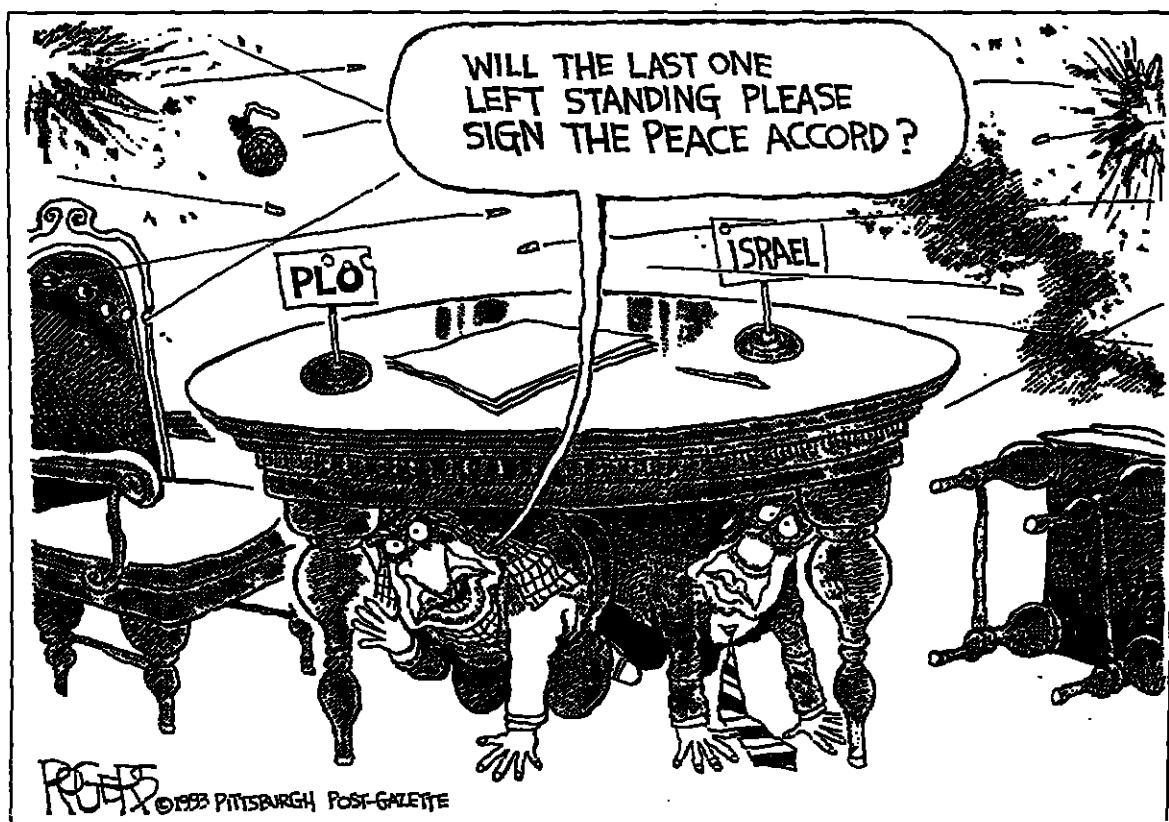
The power of public opinion polls in shaping Clinton's policies is leading him away from his love affair with Russia. Administration aides say White House surveys reflect anger among Eastern European ethnics, numbering millions of U.S. voters. They opposed George Bush in 1992 because of his "Chicken Kiev" speech establishing a Moscow-first policy. Now they are angered by Clinton's inattention to their old homelands' vulnerability to Russian pressure.

Clinton reacted by inviting a dozen leaders of ethnic Eastern European groups to the White House early this month for a 90-minute session. An administration insider told us that the president himself took questions for nearly 25 minutes and said flatly that the security of Eastern Europe has a direct impact on the United States. Just before adjourning for Easter, the Senate passed a resolution stating that the United States would oppose "by appropriate means" any Russian intimidation of Eastern Europe or the Baltics.

Bill Clinton and Strobe Talbott are the last people in the world to try bringing back the Cold War. But they are putting out the word, in unmistakable language, that they will no longer turn a blind eye to an imperialist Russia.

Rowland Evans and Robert Novak
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EDITORIAL ART



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Is The World Better or Worse?

Andy Rooney

If you were going to put down the 10 hardest questions to answer, one of them would be, "Is the world a better place to live than it used to be?"

The key to whether things are better or not is happiness and to get a real answer, you'd have to devise a standard of measurement for happiness. Once you had that, you'd measure how much total happiness there is in the world now compared with how much there used to be. Not possible, of course, so we'll never know.

People live longer, we know that, so if we're at all happy living, we have more happiness in a lifetime just by the fact that there's more of it. I remember reading that in the days of Neanderthal man, the average life expectancy was only 29 years. Even in 1850, it was no more than 40 years in the United States. Today, it's 75.

Those of us living in civilized countries think we're happier than the natives of backward countries but we don't know that's true. We equate television and junk food with happiness but there are other standards in other parts of the world. If we had that happiness measurer, we could compare their lives with ours.

If the world is a better, happier place, it would have to be because the people in it are better, not because we have electric lights, oil heat, refrigeration, automobiles, airplanes and television. Let's face it, there isn't much evidence that people are any better or worse than they ever were. Is there? (I'm laying it on you for an answer.) Watch local television news and you'd think we spent our time murdering people in shopping centers or sexually abusing children.

It's true that we have better control of our environment than the people of generations past. Most people on the planet take their basic satisfaction, which I equate with happiness, from the simple process of beating the elements. I guess we've improved at doing that. It's easier to stay warm when it's cold, cool when it's hot, dry when it rains and shovelled out when it snows. If we can do those things and then feed ourselves, we've had a happy day. Music, books, art, theater, news of what's happening and history are all extras that come with civilization but aren't necessarily essential for happiness.

It seems as though we're smarter and stronger than we used to be but I'm not even so sure of that. I don't see a modern Shakespeare on the best-seller list. I haven't heard any new composer superior to Beethoven lately or seen any painter better than Rembrandt or Michelangelo. There's no Leonardo da Vinci on the horizon. Pole vaulters are jumping higher but it isn't the vault, it's the pole. To keep us going, we need to believe everything's getting better, but we may be kidding ourselves. Maybe there's some great governing rule of eternal constancy.

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The long night of the cable TV body snatcher

KISHON'S KEYHOLE

EPHRAIM KISHON

WE are proud subscribers to cable television. The first week or so we were positively crazy about it and stayed glued to the set for nights on end.

Today? We're still glued to it for nights on end - but crazy? Nah, not us!

The real victim of this technical accident is Amir, who has become utterly enslaved to the set. It's sick, really: He's capable of sitting in front of the screen for a full hour, his eyes fixed in a blank stare on the words, "Channel 26."

If you ask him what he's doing for chrissake, he only says: "Shhh!" Now of course one can think of better things for a child of five to do than watch television all day till midnight, especially since he has to get up and go to kindergarten in the morning.

The situation deteriorated even further when 26 showed their educational movie, *The Gun Toters*, teaching our son how to kill a man without really trying. Now he has to have the light on in his bedroom, he's scared of getting into bed and once he's in he can't sleep but just lies there waiting for the killers to come and get him.

One day, therefore, the little woman decided to put an end to it. "Enough," she said firmly. "It's eight o'clock - Amir is going to bed!"

It turned out that, rather than a statement of fact, this was but the expression of a motherly wish: Amir isn't the kind to take such an order lying down.

"No!" he shrieked. "I want to see television! Te-le-vi-sion!!!"

"You'll be dead tired in the morning," his mother said. "Please go to sleep, darling, it's May past your bedtime."

"Then why isn't it past your bedtime?"

"We're grownups."

"So - you've got to work in the morning, right?"

He's a tough bargainer. If need be he can throw in a few juicy terms in Hungarian too.

"Why just me?" he went on. "Why always me? Why not you too?"

"Maybe you've got something there," said I, with the diplomatic distinct of a born father. "Know what? We'll go to bed too!"

WE KILLED the picture, yawned languidly and climbed into our pajamas en masse. Except what? Except they had *I Love Lucy* on TV that night, and I love Lucy too.

We therefore kissed Amir goodnight tenderly and tiptoed right back into the living room. Softly, we flicked the switch, and in no time the screen came to life and showed us the familiar figure of our son Amir standing in front of a livid with rage.

"So that's it," he shouted. "Me they send to bed, and they stay up and have fun! Traitors!"

"Don't call your daddy traitors," his mother rebuked him. "We were just checking something, and now we'll all go to bed. Good night!"

So then we all stretched ourselves and went to bed and to sleep.

"Ephraim," whispered my wife in her sleep, "he should be asleep by now. Let's..."

"Shhh! Here he comes!"

He was standing in the doorway, squinting at us through the dark. I started snoring loudly, and the little woman breathed in and out quite audibly too. Amir watched for a while, then went back to his own bed to be scared of monsters. We gave it another few minutes in case he should return for a double check, but since all remained quiet we sneaked warily back to the living room.

"Careful now!" said the woman. "Turn the sound off! Good idea. The picture's what's important, after all, and with a bit of practice at lipreading you can get the drift of what's being said as well. But for that you need a good

sharp image on the screen, right? The woman went and turned the contrast dial as far as it would go, except that she missed in the dark and turned up the volume instead. The sound came on like the roar of a wounded lion.

Amir, however, can outroar a lion any day.

"You b...!" he went. "You b...! You cheated me! You cheated me! CHEATS!"

He stayed with us all through *Lucy* to punish us and then, still sobbing, watched Kojak crack a dope ring on Channel Six. The next morning he dragged himself off to his kindergarten with bags under his eyes and fell asleep in the middle of *Little Red Riding Hood*, a story he's heard before.

"All right," the little woman told him crossly. "We're going to sell this TV set, and that's it!"

"Fine, so sell it!"

But we didn't. We're not going to have our children dictate to us. We're still the boss in this household.

THAT NIGHT we switched off at 8:15 and went up to brush our teeth. Then Amir watched us get into bed and retired to his own room. I dropped off at once, secure in the knowledge that I'd set the alarm clock at 9:30, since we wanted to pass the doublecheck convincingly asleep.

It worked too. The muffled ring of the clock under my pillow woke us in time, but then an unforeseen obstacle came up:

"For heaven's sake!" said the woman. "He's locked us in!"

So he had, with a chair on the outside for added safety. He's a bright child, that Amir. Too bad he's nuts.

"Wait!" I told the woman. "I know what!"

I climbed up on the windowsill, jumped down into the garden, went around to the living-room balcony, forced the door, went upstairs, moved the chair and released the woman. All this took time, and we missed the opening chorus of *Oklahoma*, but caught the tail end of "Oh what a beautiful morning," albeit in silence as we'd turned off the sound, of course. Amir's part of the house was silent as well. Too silent?

What's his name was mutely wooing the farmer's daughter now. The tension became unbearable.

"Listen!" I said to the woman. "What's that?"

"Oh God!"

The little one made a dash for the set, turned it off and we both dived behind the couch. Amir, armed with a stick, could be heard making his way to the door of our bedroom. There he inspected the chair, tapped it with his stick and sniffed all round it like a little bloodhound.

"We're selling," I swore to myself. "We're selling the bloody set tomorrow."

"Hey!" Amir called sharply. "You asleep in there?"

He repeated the question a few times, and when he received no answer he opened the door.

The game was up. I turned on the living-room lights.

"Yoo-hoo, Amir," I called laughing. "Fooled you, ha ha!"

Why go into details? I didn't mind the swearing so much, though I imagine our neighbors must have been pretty shocked. The upshot was that Amir took his pajamas and moved into the living room for good. He didn't trust us anymore, apparently.

Since then he's been living down there by the set, and sometimes he falls asleep in front of it toward dawn. I know, I counter-checked. What of it, though? Other people's kids smoke pot and tie cans to cats' tails, ours only watches television.

Anyhow, we're going to sell the wretched thing tomorrow. Or else in a couple of days or some time. Sell it, and buy a new one.

Translated by Miriam Arad



Refugees from a raped country: Hatred among Yugoslavia's ethnic groups played into the hands of foreign troublemakers. (UPPA)

When crazy people go to war

THERE AND THEN

SRAYA SHAPIRO

DISCUSSING Yugoslavia's demise is like listening to condolences on the death of a dear friend. The deceased is praised and his absence deeply regretted, but no solace offered can make up for the loss.

Regarding Yugoslavia, of course, a question arises: how such a wonderful specimen of concerted efforts for unity had disintegrated so fast into fighting hordes of unreasoning zealots? And is there a lesson for Israel?

Arnold Sherman tries to explain it in his *Perfidy in the Balkans - the Rape of Yugoslavia* (Psychogios Publications, Athens, 326 pp.). Sherman, a war correspondent in Israel in 1967, followed the IDF engineers to the Golan Heights. In 1970, he wrote a book on the War of Attrition on the Suez Canal and covered the Yom Kippur War three years later. He currently lives in Greece, from where he has been watching his beloved Balkans.

Like the Jews, the Balkan natives have history ingrained in their psyche. The Serbs fought the Moslems in Kosovo in 1389, and lost. "We are crazy people," a friend confided in the author. "Who else would commemorate the anniversary of their greatest defeat?"

Stranger by far was the fact that Albanians had been encouraged to cross the frontier and settle in the Serb area. A ploy by the Croat Tito to spite the Serbs, implies Sherman. Was this a blatant example of the inveterate hatred between the fragments in the ethnic patchwork which was Yugoslavia? Or simply an attempt to fragmentize the ethnic constituents of the state to prevent the recurrence of the tragic events that marked the World War II years?

According to Serb general Ratko Mladic, whose father was slain by Croat Ustasas when he was two years old, "one in every three of us was killed in 1918, while during World War II, 11 percent of the population perished - 98 percent of whom were Serbs. Only the Jews had been exposed to similar dangers and disparities and yet managed to survive," he said.

Sherman explicitly pins the blame on foreign pressures, mainly Germany, followed by Russia and the Islamic countries. But the main factor was, of course, that the amalgamation process had not been advanced enough to withstand political encroachments by the mighty, who are as much victims of their historical ambitions as the people they wanted to direct.

The kind of war that was waged in Yugoslavia - in Bosnia in particular - is familiar to residents of the Middle East. "Men shared

their time between work and soldiering," described Mladic. "The moment there was tension or trouble in the air, they appeared automatically with their weapons. When conditions eased, they knew who could go home and who could not. The soldiers were not only comrades, they were usually neighbors and friends. This was an army of citizens who required no infusions of patriotism to explain what was expected. They were literally fighting for their homes, their property, their families and their survival."

Unhesitatingly, Sherman glorifies the Serbs, and appeals to President Clinton to favor Serbia. He describes it as a tough nation. "If a Serb cannot shoot he can't marry," is a popular Serb adage.

Visiting war-tense Belgrade, the capital of Serbia, was a traumatic experience. Refugees had inflated the population of the city to over two million.

"There was hardly any traffic entering the city and the town center was almost void of private vehicles. To drive in Belgrade you needed a lot of money, or a lot of clout. Even black market gasoline was not easily obtainable... The trams and buses were running, but they reminded me more of Cairo and New Delhi than the Belgrade I knew... People were virtually hanging out of the windows... I learned also that people simply stopped paying fares because it was too much of a hassle even to move inside the vehicle," writes Sherman.

But "if the purpose of the sanctions was to create a new political reality in Yugoslavia by causing maximum human suffering, it failed," he adds.

Politika, the international Belgrade weekly, marked the first an-

niversary of the blockade by conjuring up a "garden party" which included the screening of select films for the specially invited UN guests.

The films purportedly conveyed the message that the UN was guilty of the death and suffering of innocent people, particularly children.

"Ask a Serb how he lives and he will smile, shrug his shoulders and invite you for a *rakija* [brandy] while explaining that the annual inflation rate in 1992 was only 20,000 percent, a mere bagatelle for a race hardened in the Balkans," Sherman says. The prices you would pay for groceries in the morning "have no similarity" to what you would pay in the afternoon.

Sherman recalls one evening near the Metropole Hotel in central Belgrade, when he was watching a gathering of several hundred high-school seniors who were about to celebrate graduation. They were all impeccably dressed, "as sario-

rial as their counterparts in Athens, Tel Aviv or New York." Their parents must have sold things, worked Sundays, to make that event memorable. "There are some things we cannot help doing. It is in our blood. Perhaps that is why we are so wild," a friend told Sherman.

Mayor Slobodanka Gruden, whose mother was Jewish and father a Serb, told Sherman there was "a spirit of extreme aggressiveness" in part of the city's population.

They are young men who have no jobs but plenty of weapons. "They have created an ugly, gray atmosphere in Belgrade which is characterized by violence and unlawfulness. They are extortioners, black marketers and illegal money changers."

Those whose pensions had become meaningless "suffer deep depression, they grow more apathetic all the time." But there are also people, says Gruden, "who refuse to be bowed or depressed." There is "a great outpouring of musical and theatrical work, an amazing number of scientific papers, splendid books... I support these people with all my heart."

Keeping your aquarium clean

HEADS 'N' TAILS

D'VORA BEN SHAUL

IF you plan to breed fish in your aquarium this year, now is the time to get it in order. This is a good time for a general cleaning, including the sub-sand filter, and for changing the filtration material in an in-tank filter.

The sides of the aquarium probably need a good cleaning with a sharp blade, and some of the gravel or sand might also need a careful washing. Be sure, however, to save the filtered water in a clean soap-free container during the cleaning operation.

Don't use any chemicals, because even traces can be very harmful.

Should you plan to place any new fish or plants, do so with great caution because this is the most common way to introduce infections into the aquarium. It is best to keep new fish, snails and plants in a separate aquarium for a week or two before introducing them into the aquarium.

The new specimens may look healthy, but - because they come from a common tank in a pet shop where new fish are always being introduced - they could be in the early incubation stage of illness.

The waiting period in isolation will allow you to check if they are still healthy when you put them into the tank. An isolation tank need not be large but must be maintained at a proper temperature. Aeration is not necessary nor is filtration for such a short period unless you simply have too many fish in the container.

Plants should be washed in water with a teaspoon full of salt per cup and then rinsed several times in clean water before being put into the aquarium.

Live bearing fish will breed quite happily in a common tank. If there is plenty of greenery the fry - or at least some of them - will survive.

If you want to be sure of their survival, remove the gravid female to a breeding trap that hangs inside the aquarium. When the fry have emerged, the females can be returned to the tank, but keep the babies in the trap.

For egg layers it is certainly best to have only the one species in the tank, because their breeding is far more complicated. For the novice breeder of egg layers I would suggest Zebra fish.

But the main thing, whether you breed the fish or just keep them, is to have an attractive aquarium for your own viewing pleasure. The degree to which aquarium watching induces relaxation is so remarkable that one can even find video cassettes consisting of silent aquarium viewing only.

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8 wounded during Jackson's Hebron visit

SOLDIERS shot and wounded eight people in Hebron Friday in a clash with stone-throwing youths that took place near the bus carrying visiting US civil-rights leader Rev. Jesse Jackson.

Back in Jerusalem, Jackson told reporters the 30-minute clash he witnessed had not scared him. Comparing the Palestinian uprising to the American civil rights movement, Jackson said, "I'm not afraid, I've been in some degree of intifada all my life."

En route to Hebron, Jackson's bus was held up twice at military checkpoints. The army insisted that his bus travel with a military escort. Palestinian organizers argued that escort jeeps would turn the bus into a target, rather than prevent trouble.

The bus eventually proceeded without the escort, but military vehicles kept close by.

At a rally in Hebron, Jackson said: "We must simply appeal to all forces, don't chop down the peace tree because it is bearing fruit."

"We must urge the leadership to be strong enough to rise above their pain and choose coexistence over co-annihilation," he continued. "We should move away from [an] eye for an eye, tooth for a tooth, death for death, which will leave us blind, disfigured and dead."

Jackson and a Moslem prayer leader, Taysir Tamimi, held a prayer meeting on a Hebron street near the Machpela Cave.

"The peace process is in motion and we have to maintain peace," Jackson said. He asked the crowd to repeat after him "Keep Hope Alive."

The crowd echoed his words several times. The English proved too difficult for some, who broke instead into the Arabic battle cry "Allahu Akbar."

Jackson appealed to Palestinians to "lay rocks on the ground and don't throw them." But after he returned to his bus, hundreds of Palestinians began stoning soldiers, some using the bus as a cover.

Tear gas went off around the bus and rocks hit it occasionally, but none penetrated. Bus passengers, including Jackson, knelt on the floor after concus-



US civil-rights leader Jesse Jackson, flanked by a sheikh, addresses Palestinians in Hebron on Friday. (Reuters)

sion grenades erupted, witnesses said.

An officer was struck in the head by a rock and soldiers then opened fire to break up the protest.

At least eight Palestinians were wounded, hospital officials said, with three hit by live bullets and five by rubber bullets. Others were treated for tear-gas inhalation.

The IDF Spokesman said the soldiers used rubber bullets and tear gas, but denied that they fired live bullets.

"The earlier the process is able to remove the Israeli military and put in Palestinian self-rule, as is now about to happen in Gaza and Jericho, the better," Jackson told students at the Hebron University campus, which he visited after his bus got out of the melee. (AP)

Jackson visits Afula bomb victims, prays for recovery

CLUTCHING the hands of several of those wounded in last week's Afula car bombing, the Rev. Jesse Jackson uttered a prayer yesterday for their recovery and said the attack underscored a need to quicken Middle East peace efforts.

He was warmly received by staff and patients at Ha'emek Hospital, where 10 of those wounded are still being treated.

But he stayed away from the bus stop in the center of town where the attack occurred, although organizers said earlier that would be included in the trip. At the site, 15 protesters stood with signs. "Rabin and the government won't cleanse their hands of this blood," "They are killing us, where is the government?" they read.

Nazem Hassan, 60, of Nazareth, was moved to

tears by Jackson's appearance at his bedside.

Jackson and his wife Jackie held hands with Hassan and relatives. "Bless this brother, heal his body, we pray this his suffering will not be in vain," Jackson intoned. "Give us the strength to stop the violence, to stop the terror, to save the people and to live in peace."

Jackson also said prayers with relatives of Yona Meital, 12, whose face was covered with bandages. "Bless this, our child, and let healing visit her," Jackson prayed. "My family and my children are going to pray for her." Jackson later told reporters. Meital's father Yoel said he was grateful for Jackson's visit.

Last night Jackson met with Foreign Minister Shimon Peres. (AP)

Three gunmen killed in south Lebanon

MARJAYOUN (Reuters) - IDF and South Lebanese Army soldiers, repulsing an attack on their posts, killed three gunmen and wounded three in south Lebanon yesterday, security sources said.

Palestinian groups opposing the September 13 PLO-Israeli peace pact claimed responsibility for the attack, saying they suffered some casualties in the exchange of fire.

The sources said the gunmen fired mortars and machine guns at two hilltop posts manned by IDF and SLA troops at Ali Taher just inside the security zone.

There was no word of any IDF or SLA casualties.

IDF and SLA gunmen returned tank, artillery, and machine-gun fire, killing three gunmen and wounding three, the sources added.

The Damascus-based Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine and a small breakaway faction of PLO chief Yasser Arafat's main Fatah group said in a statement a joint force clashed with Israeli and SLA forces near Ali Taher.

"The enemy suffered heavy casualties. We will announce our casualties later," the two groups said in another statement. Both statements were issued in the south Lebanon port of Sidon.

During the clash Hizbullah gunmen fired rockets at the IAF helicopters, the statement said.

Later, security sources said gunmen fired two Katyusha rockets at an SLA post at Suweida on the edge of the zone.

Holon man indicted for murdering wife

RA'ANAN Shafek, 42, was indicted on Friday by Tel Aviv District Court for the murder of his estranged wife, Sarah Granit, two weeks ago.

According to the charge sheet, on the morning of March 24, Shafek waited for Granit - from whom he had separated last year - near her home in Holon. He was armed with a 30cm-long lug wrench, intending to kill her. When she left her house on her way to work, he jumped her and hit her in the head and face with the wrench.

The indictment further charged that when Granit slumped to the ground, Shafek continued beating her, warning neighbors not to give her medical aid.

Granit died 90 minutes later in the hospital. Shafek denies having planned to kill Granit, but police told the court they have sufficient evidence to convict him, including Shafek's confession, witnesses' testimony, and the murder weapon. (Itim)

LA Satmar rabbi convicted of money-laundering

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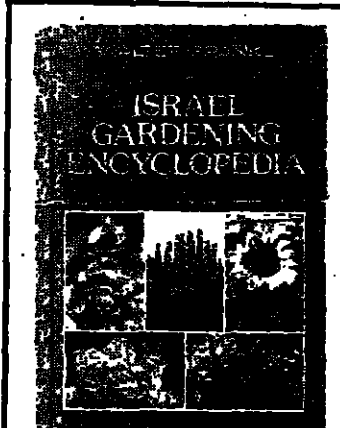
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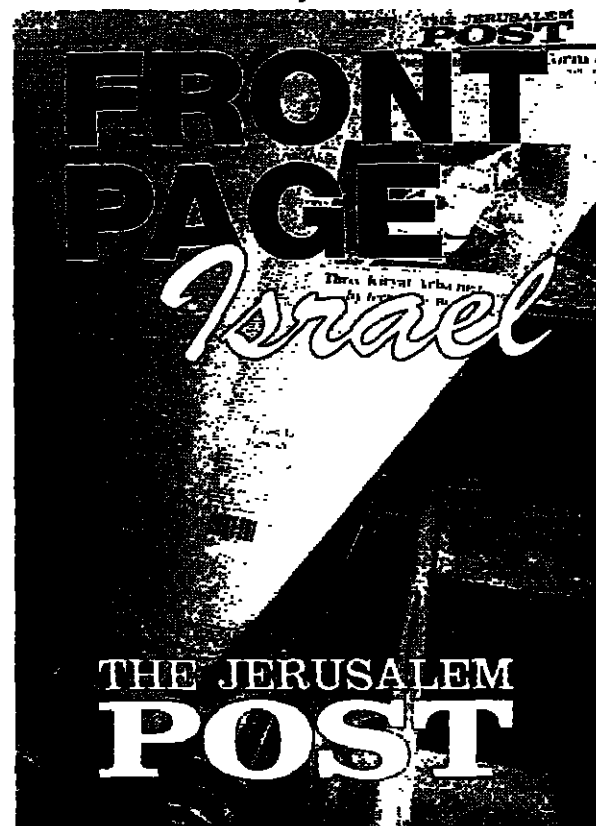
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WESTERN CONFERENCE

8 wounded during Jackson's Hebron visit

SOLDIERS shot and wounded eight people in Hebron Friday in a clash with stone-throwing youths that took place near the bus carrying visiting US civil-rights leader Rev. Jesse Jackson.

Back in Jerusalem, Jackson told reporters the 30-minute clash he witnessed had not scared him. Comparing the Palestinian uprising to the American civil rights movement, Jackson said, "I'm not afraid, I've been in some degree of infidelity all my life."

En route to Hebron, Jackson's bus was held up twice at military checkpoints. The army insisted that his bus travel with a military convoy. Palestinian organizers argued that escort jeeps would turn the bus into a target, rather than prevent trouble.

The bus eventually proceeded without the escort, but military vehicles kept close by.

At a rally in Hebron, Jackson said: "We must simply appeal to all forces, don't chop down the peace tree because it is bearing fruit."

"We must urge the leadership to be strong enough to rise above their pain and choose coexistence over co-annihilation," he continued. "We should move away from [an] eye for an eye, tooth for a tooth, death for death, which will leave us blind, disfigured and dead."

Jackson and a Moslem prayer leader, Taysir Tamimi, held a prayer meeting on a Hebron street near the Machpela Cave.

"The peace process is in motion and we have to maintain peace," Jackson said. He asked the crowd to repeat after him "Keep Hope Alive."

The crowd echoed his words several times. The English proved too difficult for some, who broke instead into the Arabic battle cry "Allahu Akbar."

Jackson appealed to Palestinians to "lay rocks on the ground and don't throw them." But after he returned to his bus, hundreds of Palestinians began stoning soldiers, some using the bus as a cover.

Tear gas went off around the bus and rocks hit it occasionally, but none penetrated. Bus passengers, including Jackson, knelt on the floor after concus-



US civil-rights leader Jesse Jackson, flanked by a sheikh, addresses Palestinians in Hebron on Friday. (Reuters)

sion grenades erupted, witnesses said.

An officer was struck in the head by a rock and soldiers then opened fire to break up the protest.

At least eight Palestinians were wounded, hospital officials said, with three hit by live bullets and five by rubber bullets. Others were treated for tear-gas inhalation.

The IDF Spokesman said the soldiers used rubber bullets and tear gas, but denied that they fired live bullets.

"The earlier the process is able to remove the Israeli military and put in Palestinian self-rule, as is now about to happen in Gaza and Jericho, the better," Jackson told students at the Hebron University campus, which he visited after his bus got out of the melee. (AP)

Jackson visits Afula bomb victims, prays for recovery

CLUTCHING the hands of several of those wounded in last week's Afula car bombing, the Rev. Jesse Jackson uttered a prayer yesterday for their recovery and said the attack underscored a need to quicken Middle East peace efforts.

He was warmly received by staff and patients at Ha'emek Hospital, where 10 of those wounded are still being treated.

But he stayed away from the bus stop in the center of town where the attack occurred, although organizers said earlier that would be included in the trip. At the site, 15 protesters stood with signs. "Rabin and the government won't cleanse their hands of this blood," they read. "They are killing us, where is the government?" they read.

Nazem Hassan, 60, of Nazareth, was moved to

tears by Jackson's appearance at his bedside.

Jackson and his wife Jackie held hands with Hassan and relatives. "Bless this brother, heal his body, we pray this suffering will not be in vain," Jackson intoned. "Give us the strength to stop the violence, to stop the terror, to save the people and to live in peace."

Jackson also said prayers with relatives of Yona Meital, 12, whose face was covered with bandages.

"Bless this, our child, and let healing visit her," Jackson prayed. "My family and my children are going to pray for her." Jackson later told reporters, Meital's father Yael said he was grateful for Jackson's visit.

Last night Jackson met with Foreign Minister Shimon Peres. (AP)

Three gunmen killed in south Lebanon

MARJAYOUN (Reuters) - IDF and South Lebanese Army soldiers, repulsing an attack on their posts, killed three gunmen and wounded three in south Lebanon yesterday, security sources said.

Palestinian groups opposing the September 13 PLO-Israeli peace pact claimed responsibility for the attack, saying they suffered some casualties in the exchange of fire.

The sources said the gunmen fired mortars and machine guns at two hilltop posts manned by IDF and SLA troops at Ali Taher just inside the security zone.

There was no word of any IDF or SLA casualties.

IDF and SLA gunmen returned tank, artillery, and machine-gun fire, killing three gunmen and wounding three, the sources added.

The Damascus-based Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine and a small breakaway faction of PLO chief Yasser Arafat's main Fatah group said in a statement a joint force clashed with Israeli and SLA forces near Ali Taher.

"The enemy suffered heavy casualties. We will announce our casualties later," the two groups said in another statement. Both statements were issued in the south Lebanon port of Sidon.

During the clash Hizbullah gunmen fired rockets at the IAF helicopters, the statement said.

Later, security sources said gunmen fired two Katyusha rockets at an SLA post at Suweida on the edge of the zone.

Holon man indicted for murdering wife

RA'ANAN Shafek, 42, was indicted on Friday by Tel Aviv District Court for the murder of his estranged wife, Sarah Granit, two weeks ago.

According to the charge sheet, on the morning of March 24, Shafek waited for Granit - from whom he had separated last year - near her home in Holon. He was armed with a 30cm-long lug wrench, intending to kill her. When she left her house on her way to work, he jumped her and hit her in the head and face with the wrench.

The indictment further charged that when Granit slumped to the ground, Shafek continued beating her, warning neighbors not to give her medical aid.

Granit died 90 minutes later in the hospital. Shafek denies having planned to kill Granit, but police told the court they have sufficient evidence to convict him, including Shafek's confession, witnesses' testimony, and the murder weapon. (Ium)

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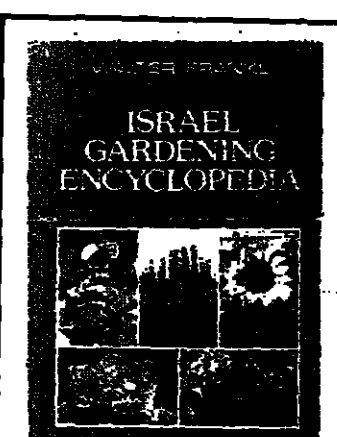
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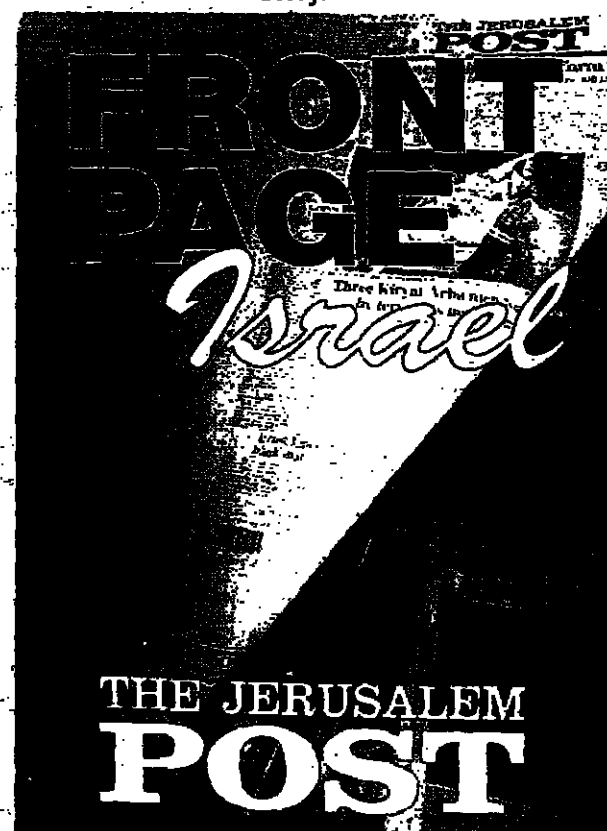
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